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A SHOUTING EMPEROR.

The new Emperor has put his foot down, and no mistake. The stamp of his soldier's heel at Frankfort yesterday will resound throughout Europe. It is a bad time for people with nerves. Newspapers hitherto have had a monopoly of sensationalism. Their leaded paragraphs and flaming headlines have been disquieting enough, but we have got used to them. But now that an Emperor has arrived with a turn for sensationalism we may look forward for uneasy times. If this performance at Frankfort is to be taken as a sample of the style that is to prevail in the new reign the Continent will need to stuff its ears with cotton-wool if it is to sleep in peace. For the Emperor William is not content to speak. He shouts, and the shout of an Emperor is apt to get on the nerves of his neighbours.

"This is a serious time," quoth Kaiser William, and no doubt it is true. All time is serious, but we fail to see the wisdom of such a remark just now, when the last responsible statesman who has addressed Europe has assured us that there never was a time when all the rulers of the world were more unanimously resolute to maintain uninterrupted peace. Either the young Emperor feels somewhat daunted by the burden and responsibilities of empire, which would indeed be serious, or he was resorting to the stock commonplace by which a sensationalist seeks to heighten the effect of his words. We prefer to believe that it is the latter, and to excuse it on the ground of the comparative youth and inexperience of the Emperor. He has not yet realized the difference between an Emperor's word and that of Dick, Tom, and Harry. Over an Emperor is a sounding-board which immensely increases the volume of his voice. He can only express himself as it were through a loud-speaking phonograph, which magnifies the footfall of a fly until it sounds as the tramp of an armed man. "This is a serious time," no doubt: but it is not so serious as if the young Emperor had learned to weigh his words and to make allowance for his altered position.

That phrase, however, is comparatively unimportant beside the declaration which followed. The Emperor, after referring to the exploits of Prince Frederick Charles and the Third Army Corps, said:—"There can be no question of surrendering what has "been gained. Upon this point there is only one mind, namely, "that our eighteen army corps and our 42,000,000 inhabitants "should rather be left on the field than that we should permit "even one stone of what we have gained to be taken from us." Now when an Emperor says there can be no question, he indirectly asserts that there has been such a question. For obviously if there were in reality no such question, it would never occur to the Emperor to refer to it. Responsible rulers do not make public speeches about questions which do not exist. Hence the only effect of referring to the subject at all is to give greater substance to the shadowy claims of the French to Alsace-Lorraine. That is to be regretted. These claims should never be alluded to in Germany, least of all by the Emperor. They should always be resolutely treated as non-existent, as too utterly absurd and impossible even to be mentioned by sensible men. Other nations may speak of them, but by Germans they are not a topic for speech. The Emperor should no more talk about not surrendering the provinces—granting, of course, that he has no such intention—than a man should discuss publicly a libertine's designs upon the virtue of his wife. There may be such designs, and every precaution may be taken to baffle them, but to speak of them publicly—that is quite impossible before the moment when it is necessary to resort to force. We cannot believe for a moment that French ambitions have acquired sufficient consistency to render it impossible for the ruler of Germany to hold his tongue. The compulsion must be grave indeed to justify an Emperor in affirming what he and all his subjects must regard as a self-evident proposition. Imagine a cashier announcing to his employer, "There is no question of my embezzling your money," or a Prime Minister declaring, "There can be no question of my betraying the State," and you have an analogy to the declaration of the German Emperor about not abandoning the territory which he and his subjects regard it as his first duty to defend intact.

This, however, is nothing to the emphasis with which he proclaimed his determination. Herein the Emperor seems a little hysterical. When Jules Favre declared that France would not concede an inch of her territory or a stone of her fortresses, it was a valiant declaration flung out in the midst of war as a retort to a definite demand for so many fortresses and for so much territory. But, although it was excusable, it heralded the surrender of Alsace and Lorraine with Metz and Strasburg. Now without any ostensible provocation the German Emperor proclaims that every one of his 42,000,000 subjects must die before a single German will permit even one stone to be taken from the Fatherland. What nonsense this is if taken literally, and what strained rhetorical fustian it is if we take it as it must be taken metaphorically. For it is obviously not true literally. It is an extravagant hyperbole, and hyperboles of this kind are dangerous plaything for Emperors. There is a straining after effect in the very exaggeration which is akin to the underlining so dear to some feminine correspondents, and to those italics which Disraeli remarked were the sure sign and the last refuge of the forcible-feebles in literature. It would be a grave disaster to Europe if the new Emperor were to turn out a Forcible-Feeble. This performance does not seem to indicate much sense of conscious strength. Just imagine the Tzar making such a speech! It is worthier of Madame Adam than of the ruler of the greatest military Empire in the world.

THE GOVERNMENT AND PERPETUAL PENSIONS.

By Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, M.P.

The Treasury Minute on perpetual pensions, which was promised some weeks since by the First Lord of the Treasury, and was, after repeated questions in the House by myself, nominally presented to Parliament on July 20, but was not distributed to members until August 10, is a most disappointing and unsatisfactory document. The Report of the Select Committee of 1887, on which the Government had a majority, was unanimous, yet that Minute utterly overrides the Report on vital points. The resolution of the House this year, in effect endorsing the Committee's recommendations, was, with slight modification, accepted by the Government; but this resolution is practically set at nought. In the Minute just issued, the Ministry, disagreeing with the Committee on some most important matters, declare that they intend to allow all the remaining holders of pensions in perpetuity to commute at the old and emphatically condemned rate of twenty-seven years' purchase. The Select Committee unanimously resolved, "That in all cases the method of commutation ought to involve and ensure a real and substantial saving to the nation," and "that the rate of commutation usually adopted of about twenty-seven years' purchase is too high." The Treasury say, in reply, that twenty-seven years' purchase "makes a saving for the nation of about 19 per cent.," which is true; they add that "that saving would be increased if the Treasury, as seems probable, should be able to borrow at 2¾ per cent.," and they declare that they "cannot agree that the terms hitherto given to individuals have been too high." I venture to affirm that if any spokesman for the Government had in the House on the discussion of my motion on pensions this year made any such statement of the intention of the Treasury to continue to pay twenty-seven years' purchase in all cases there would have been some exceedingly strong protests, not alone from Radicals, but also from many of those sitting on the Ministerial benches.

The First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer are specially responsible for the Minute, and they declare that they intend "to continue a course which," they say, "has thus far commanded general approval"—this "general approval" being denied in express words or distinct disapproval by the Select Committee, whose disapproval has been endorsed by Parliament and by the country at large, as illustrated in the numerous leading articles in favour of the Report from journalists without distinction of political colour. The evidence (501) showed that no distinction in the rate of commutation had been made by the Treasury between pensions granted in tail male and those granted in tail general, though, of course, the probability of determination is greater in the former case. Mr. W. H. Smith is a business man, and Mr. Goschen has high financial repute; but surely in this Minute they have got very much muddled in their facts and figures. They say in the Minute: "The remaining pensions and payments due to individuals are sixteen in number, involving a yearly cost of nearly £12,000, while further annuities, amounting to between £23,000 and £24,000 a year, are mainly payable to bodies or corporations." The facts (as given

in evidence by Sir Reginald Welby) certainly do not agree with the first part of this statement. The list of individuals now receiving such perpetual pensions, allowances, or payments, and taken from the Report and evidence in the order of the appendix, are :—

	£	s.	d.
1 Viscount Exmouth (p. 42)	2,000	0	0
2 Earl Nelson (p. 43) ...	5,000	0	0
3 Lord Rodney (p. 44) ...	2,000	0	0
4 Duke of Schomberg (p. 44) (residue of £4,000), receivable by P. L. Powys	360	0	0
Receivable by Robert Gostling	360	0	0
5 Duke of Grafton (p. 46), receivable by R. Harrison	62	9	8
6 Sir E. Hulse	10	4	6
7 Heirs of Thomas Warren (p. 47), receivable by Georgina Archer.....	12	7	2
8 Owner of Cheshunt Park, receivable by F. J. Prescott	26	15	0
9 E. Wadham, Lord of the Liberty of Furness	9	0	0
10 Duke of St. Albans (p. 48)	965	0	0
11 Earl Dysart's trustees (p. 49).....	75	10	0
12 Lord D'Auverquerque (receivable by L. L. Cohen).....	375	16	0
13 Marquis of Downshire...	216	3	4
14 Her Majesty (p. 58, as Duchess of Lancaster)	803	0	0
15 Prince of Wales (as Duke of Cornwall)]	16,216	15	0
16 Hugh James Rollo (p. 71)	242	15	0
17 Duke of Hamilton	45	10	0
18 Duke of Grafton (p. 75)	6,870	0	0
19 Duke of Richmond (p. 83)	19,000	0	0
20 Richard Pendrell's heirs (p. 92)	100	0	0
21 William Pendrell's heirs	100	0	0
22 John Pendrell's heirs ...	100 marks		
23 Humfry Pendrell's heirs	100 marks		
24 George Pendrell's heirs	100 marks		
25 Elizabeth Yates and heirs	50	0	0

The First Lord and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reckoning up to "nearly £12,000," appear to have (*inter alia*) omitted her Majesty, the Prince of Wales, and the Dukes of Grafton and Richmond—four individuals, and a total of nearly £44,000. The two pensions to the Dukes of Grafton and Richmond may have been intentionally omitted because they are now represented by moneys invested in lands, with reversion to the nation on failure of heirs, scheduled in full detail in the appendix to the Report of the Select Committee, and the rents of which lands are received by the respective Dukes in lieu of the pensions; but even then the two other individual pensions—that is, those of her Majesty and the Prince of Wales—omitted amount to more than £17,000. It is of course possible that the First Lord and Chancellor of the Exchequer have for some inexplicable reason treated the pensions to the Duchess of Lancaster and to the Duke of Cornwall as payable to "bodies or corporations." The Select Committee recommended that "where no service, or merely nominal service, is rendered by the holder of an hereditary office, and where no service, or merely nominal service, was rendered by the original grantee," "the payment shall in no case continue beyond the life of the present holder or recipient." The Government positively refuse to agree in this recommendation on the ground that it would involve a breach of public faith, and the precedent of the Committee of 1838 is quoted and relied on. But the precedent of 1838 is dead in the teeth of the present Treasury Minute, for that Committee did distinctly recommend the cessation of some, the temporary suspension of some, and the lessening the amounts of other pensions. Some pensions were resigned by the recipients rather than face the inquiry. The First Lord and the Chancellor of the Exchequer say "these, however, were not perpetual pensions." That is true, but it is also true, and much more material, that for some reason which is not now ascertainable the Committee appointed by Mr. Spring Rice in 1837 entirely omitted to deal with perpetual pensions. In the present Minute the First Lord and the Chancellor of the Exchequer deem it right to express "regret that the Committee should have arrived at the conclusion that some pensions have been commuted, notwithstanding formal objections in writing lodged at the Treasury, and without sufficient inquiry into the matters stated in such objections. Two cases are referred to in the Treasury Minute—namely, £4,000 to the Duke of Marlborough and £4,000 to the heirs of William Penn. The objections to these pensions lodged with the Treasury are set out on pp. 53-54 of the appendix to the Report of the Select Committee, and are worth reproducing.

The Marlborough Pension.

That the original grantee, being then Earl of Marlborough, Lieutenant-General and sworn Privy Councillor of William III., traitorously furnished to James II., in 1693, an account of the warlike preparations of William III., with particulars of the fleet and army, and how these were to be employed, well knowing that such information was communicated to the King of France.

That on the 4th May, 1694, the Earl of Marlborough treacherously communicated to the French King, through James II., details of a secret expedition against the harbour of Brest; that in consequence of this communication Brest was secretly fortified and garrisoned by the French, and the English expedition was repulsed with great slaughter.

That subsequent to the above treasons, the Earl of Marlborough received large sums of money from the Court of France.

That in the reign of Queen Anne, the Duke of Marlborough, being then Captain-General of the Forces, embezzled and applied to his own use two sums of £282,366 9*s.* 7*d.* and £177,695 17*s.* respectively received by him for the purpose of the British and foreign forces under his command, and further that during the same period he received by way of bribe from the bread contractor large sums of money each year, averaging annually about £6,500, and amounting altogether to more than £60,000.

The evidence for the above consists in main part of the written letters of Marlborough, of memoranda] in writing by James II., and of the Journals of [the House of Commons.

The Penn Pension.

That the proprietary right of the Penn family (at the time of the Declaration of Independence) in the State of Pennsylvania, under Letters Patent of Charles II., were on the 27th November, 1779, fixed at £130,000, which sum was duly paid to the heirs of W. Penn. by instalments of £15,000 per annum, with interest.

That Colonel W. Stuart is not the heir or nearest descendant in blood of William Penn.

The evidence for the above can be obtained from the official records of the State of Pennsylvania, and the genealogical table of the Penn family.

Mr. W. H. Smith and Mr. Goschen say for the Treasury that the Act of Parliament "did not constitute them a Court of Appeal on disputed questions of history" in the first case, nor did it empower them "to ascertain whether there were nearer heirs in existence" in the second case.

POULTRY CULTURE IN FRANCE.

The Land of "Poulet."

It has been estimated that in Paris the average consumption of eggs every year is 150 per head of the population, while of chickens a computation arrived at a few years ago stated that every year there are about eighty millions of capons and chickens consumed in France. Only a comparatively small number of these are capons, perhaps about 4 per cent.; for, while the ordinary chicken enters into the daily food of all classes, except perhaps the very poor, capons are, from their price, necessarily limited to the wealthier section of the community. The English Consul at Le Mans informed us that he cannot obtain a good capon under 16 f., while if he desires a fine poularde he must pay 20 f. to 30 f. These birds are fed for several weeks on the very best food. They require a large amount of attention; and the dealer who finishes them off and sends to the consumer expects to receive at least two shillings per pound. Thus it will be seen that the supply of and demand for the better qualities of French poultry, the capons and poulardes, is necessarily limited. But the ordinary chicken, superior in every way to the average fowls sold in this country, forms an article of diet in French households of a class where poultry are only here seen occasionally, and as a special dish—except they are bred by the consumer. In considering, therefore, the question of poultry in France, it is well to bear this fact in mind.

The Poultry Show in Paris.

In France the breeding and feeding of poultry enters into agricultural operations in a manner which cannot be understood on this side the Channel. Direct encouragement is liberally given by the Government to the culture of poultry; and the best information is widely disseminated, as part of that system of rural education which puts to shame all the puny efforts here made for the improvement of our agricultural population. As an example of the way in which the French Government regards agriculture and its responsibilities in connection with the greatest of all industries may be mentioned the annual show held at Paris, about a fortnight before *Mardi Gras*. The poultry are placed in spacious pens "to be seen of all men," and the magnificent pavilion which stands in the centre of the palace is occupied by those fowls which are fortunate enough to win the great prize. The proprietors of the leading cafés and restaurants will pay as much as 100 f. for a *prix d'honneur* specimen, so that their patrons may be able to dine off the champion fowls of the year on Shrove Tuesday.

Vineyards as Poultry Runs.

In all parts of France it can be seen that poultry enters much more into the farm economy than is the case here. There are, it is true, special districts where fowls are exceptionally cultivated, such as La Manche and the valley of the Auge in Normandy, La Flèche and the valley of La Sarthe in Maine, Houdan, and Mantes in Seine-et-Oise, the Bourg and Louhans in Burgundy. In the same way, Surrey and Sussex produce the best of English table fowls, Aylesbury the finest ducks, Norfolk and Cumberland geese of a high order, and Cambridge and Norfolk the primest turkeys. But it is when we regard it from the general point of view that we see the immense superiority of France. English farmers do not maintain flocks of poultry as part of their farm operations. In France the agriculturist would never think of neglecting even so small a branch of live stock. More especially is this state of things to be observed in the wine districts, which comprise so large a portion of the cultivated land of the country. The houses in which the fowls live vary very much in size and style; many are permanent —made of brick, or stone, or wood; and, where the taste of the owners has been allowed to display itself, they are often ornamental, but the greater number are portable, generally of wood, and made very narrow, so as to permit their standing between the rows of vines, with handles at either end in order that a couple of men can carry them. All the year round, except for a couple of months when the fruit is ripening, do the poultry live in this way. The benefit to the land is very great. Not only do they enrich it with their manure—a most important consideration—but they clear the ground of worms and slugs; and the avidity with which they follow the plough during the periodic turnings of the soil at once confirms the opinion that insect life is the natural food of fowls. The effect upon the birds themselves is very beneficial; and of all the poultry produced in France, excepting those especially fattened, the finest, both as to tenderness and richness of flavour, are bred and fed on the vineyards. It would thus appear that the very qualities of soil and climate which go to make the best wine are those needed to produce the finest poultry—which view is borne out by the fact that the eggs laid are also very rich. To

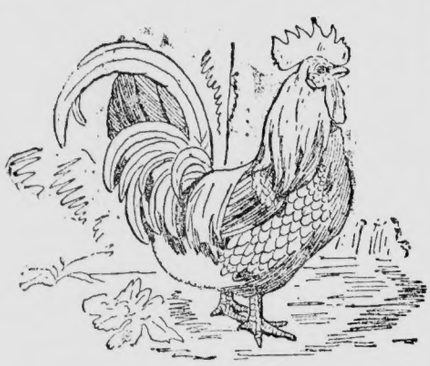
obtain an ordinary fowl in perfection we must have one fed on a vineyard and cooked before a wood fire.

VARIETIES OF "POULET."

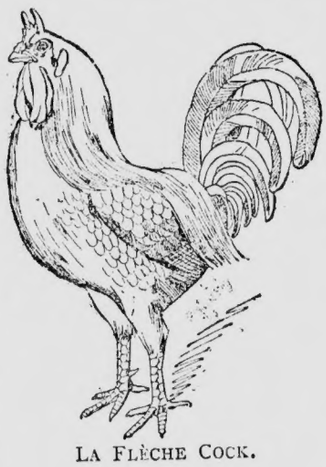
Each of the great centres of poultry breeding and fattening has one or more varieties which are distinctly its own. The premier position is held by the La Bresse, which comes from the departments of Ain and Saône-et-Loire in Burgundy. For exquisite flavour, delicacy of flesh, and fineness of bone, it has no equal; and even an ordinary specimen will command 30 f. at the Halles Centrales of Paris. Of La Bresse there are two varieties, one coming from Bourg, in the department of Ain, and the other from Louhans, in Saône-et-Loire. Both, however, have the same characteristics, and are equally fine in quality. These birds present a most peculiar appearance when offered for sale, being boiler-shaped, though more pointed than round. This is obtained by the process of shaping; for all French fowls of the better class are dealt with in this manner, either with cloths alone, as in the La Bresse, or with boards and cloths, as in the other breeds. For the La Bresse the cloths are so made as to give a spherical shape, the wings and legs being pressed into the sides—a method unique in the preparation of domestic poultry. As soon as the bird has been plucked and drawn, it is sewn tightly up in the cloth, soaked in cold water, and allowed to stand for a couple of days.

HOW FRENCH FOWLS ARE FATTENED.

The "poule de Mans" is bred only in the Le Mans district, and rivals the La Bresse in the favour with which it is held. Poulardes—that is, female chickens deprived of their reproductive faculty—are preferred, and specimens during the first months of the year are sent to all parts of Europe, though the chief demand is in France itself. It is almost without exception the case that the breeder and fattener are two separate individuals. The farmers around Le Mans do not fatten—they simply breed the large, massive, black fowl which is characteristic of the Sarthe valley, and in the autumn the chickens are bought up by the dealers, who fatten them to meet their demand. The season for fattening extends from November 1 to the end of March, and the birds are kept in small dark cages, and fed upon buckwheat meal, mixed with fat and milk, and made into *patons*. One dealer at Le Mans usually sends out every season 2,000 of these birds, though he has in an exceptional year reached a total of 3,000. There is also another delicacy produced here, the "*oies de Mans*," or geese, fattened up in a similar manner. La Flèche is about thirty miles south of Le Mans, and is also the centre of a great district for poultry culture. A well-fed La Flèche *poularde* is one of the finest table fowls that can be met with. There is yet a third variety owning this district as its home. This is the *courtes pattes*, a short-legged, quaintly shaped, black fowl, used chiefly to supply the early season's market. From this is made a famed dish, "poulets à la reine," at one time an especial favourite with epicures.



THE COURTES PATTES FOWL.



LA FLÈCHE COCK.

EGG-HATCHING AT HOUDAN.

From Normandy comes the crève-cœur, which, while it cannot claim the delicate flavour of La Bresse or La Flèche, is yet esteemed for its valuable qualities on the table and as a layer. It can scarcely now be spoken of as a purely French fowl, for it has won its way into other countries. And the same may be said of the Houdan, which with its varieties, the Le Mans and the Faverolle, is bred so largely on the banks of the Seine below Paris. These are all of the more useful breeds, which are largely bred by the farmers of the districts whence they emanate. Near to the town of Houdan is a great egg-hatching establishment, where thousands of chickens are born in incubators every year. Farmers bring their eggs, returning three weeks afterwards for the chickens, paying the establishment one out of every three so hatched for its share of the work. Artificial incubation and rearing has developed greatly in France since the Franco-German war, but as a rule the ordinary poultry-keepers content themselves with the natural methods, unless there is some such establishment as that at Gambais. In fattening, artificial methods have for a much longer period been greatly adopted, and nearly all the fowls sent to market are crammed either by hand or machinery. Elaborate apparatus of various kinds have been introduced from time to time. These, however, find favour chiefly with those who approach poultry-keeping as a hobby rather than a profitable speculation. The practical conservative spirit of the French peasantry leads them to continue on the old lines. They prefer to keep the profit they already have, and are not disposed to expend money in reaching after that which is uncertain. The success of any plan has to be more than usually determined ere they will venture upon it. The regular methods of fattening are very simple. The fowls are kept in dark cages, and are crammed with food, generally liquid, three or four times a day. At one time the crammer filled his own mouth with the food, and forced it into that of the bird. This plan can yet be seen in out-of-the-way places. Instead of the mouth, in many places a funnel is used, the nozzle of which is inserted in the throat of the bird and the food poured down. The method now largely followed is an improvement on this; for a machine contains the food, and by a simple pressure of the foot enough of the contents is ejected to form one portion. The fowl's mouth is fitted to the nozzle provided for the purpose, and the operation is most effectively and swiftly performed. The system of feeding by *patons* is also largely in vogue. In this case the food is made firmer, and formed into large pellets about the size of a finger, several of which are forced into the bird's crop.

FOWLS SOLD PIECEMEAL.

That economy which is so great an element in the French character is very evident in the marketing of fowls. In Paris half birds can be purchased, both cooked and uncooked, but at Bordeaux this division of the fowl is carried out to a much greater extent, and in the octagonal market of the beautiful city on the Gironde can be seen peculiar-looking carcasses, offered there for sale—carcasses whose leading characteristic seems to be the absence of meat. Legs, wings, breast, all are gone. These limbs and portions are offered for sale separately, and thus a Bordelaise housekeeper, able, as all French cooks are, to make a fine dish with very little meat, can buy a leg, or a wing, or a breast without any of the other portions; or, if the purse is not well lined, then the carcass can be taken, from which a splendid dish of soup may be made. Even the blood is sold, showing that here at least the proverb "waste not, want not" is understood and observed. How different to the wastefulness in the kitchen of a Yankee millionaire, of whom we recently heard, where the breasts alone of the fowls are cooked and sent to the table, the carcasses, including legs and wings, being thrown on to the dunghill. The secret of French success in poultry culture comes from the attention paid to the little things, and from a practical belief in the importance of this branch of live stock as a profitable portion of agricultural operations.

A FOREIGNER'S GRUMBLES AT ENGLISH RAILROADS.

IN this pæan of exultation now arising over the English railroads, a few words from an American traveller will sound, I fear, like a harsh discord. But to us Americans the railroad arrangements of England seem fifty years behind the age. Of course I do not suppose the account of anything foreign in these matters will have the smallest effect on the English mind, but at least it will relieve one's own mind to utter it. I live in a village some twenty or thirty miles from New York, and for daily transit pay rather less than a halfpenny a mile, being provided with "first-class" accommodation. That is, I have a comfortable cushioned seat, clean "car," on good springs, and, above all, a cabinet where one can wash one's hands, dust one's self, and get a glass of ice water, and in addition two water closets are provided for each carriage. How valetudinarians, or women with babies, or anybody with decent habits, can travel in your local trains, is a mystery to me. The spectacle of an insane rush of passengers at each station is not a delectable one. Such matters should be all provided for on a train. Then when I would take an express train, say on the Pennsylvania or Central, I have a comfortable separate chair, good ventilation, and easy springs, or if with a party we can take a compartment; then we enjoy the use of a wash-room, nice closets, or bath, an attendant, and at the proper time I can take a good meal in the "buffet-car" or on my own seat, and at night a good bed is opened; the whole road is smoother and better laid than most English roads; all this with say the price of parliamentary trains, *plus* eight or ten shillings a day for extras.

Now, such civilized comforts are of far more importance to the general public than your tremendous speed, which is excessively dangerous and expensive. Then for a matter on which no Englishman is open to conviction—that is, the seat arrangement. The American or Austrian method is cooler and more airy in summer, adapts itself better to heating in winter, is more social, and also more private, for two on a seat can talk more confidentially than two in a compartment with six others. Then in accidents, there is less flying of splinters. All such horrible accidents or crimes as have been known in England, in compartments, are impossible. But the luggage! Such worries as we foreigners have in England looking after and losing our traps and "gripsacks"; while I can go from New York to San Francisco without the smallest trouble or loss. When will you adopt the "check system"? Another thing: How is a stranger ever to find out the name of the station he has reached? The titles are given apparently in modern Greek by the guards; all the approaches are covered with advertisements of "Colman's Mustard" or somebody's "Hair-oil," and the unhappy foreigner is left to "guess" where he is. Any first-class road in America that left the walls at its stations disfigured by such rubbishy placards would very soon have an indignant remonstrance from its patrons. The conclusion of my grumble is: Give me more comfort on English railroads and less speed.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Liberals of Liverpool, who have often distinguished themselves by their vigorous and independent initiative, have once more taken the lead in a matter of national importance. Yesterday they started a National Defence Fund for Mr. Parnell and his fellow-members, by which it is hoped it will be possible to pay the whole of the legal expenses incurred in exposing the *Times* slanders before the Special Commission. The Irish have frequently shown what they can do in the shape of National Defence Funds. It is now for the people of the larger island, north and south of the Tweed, to show that they can be as liberal and as prompt as the poorer Irishry.

There are few Englishmen who will not read with sympathy and admiration the story of the gallant struggle which James Somers and his eleven kinsfolk made against 200 police and Emergency-men the day before yesterday in county Wexford. They had converted their little house into a veritable fortress. An earthern rampart was thrown up to the height of twenty feet around the house; in front of this a trench five feet deep had been dug, and the doors and windows were closed by gates and bars. The gallant garrison of twelve defended themselves against battering ram and bayonet charges for eight hours, and at last only capitulated when the roof of their little stronghold caught fire. The justification of their action is to be found in the fact that the eviction took place for a rent which the resident magistrate had in vain urged the landlord to reduce; the offer of the tenants having been a just one, which the magistrate thought the landlord should have accepted.

The position of this magistrate, Mr. Considine, R.M., is a good illustration of the intelligence with which we are governing the Irish. Mr. Considine, first of all, in his capacity of mediator, decides that the landlord is asking too much, and that the offer of the tenants, being just, should be accepted. The landlord having refused to do justice, Mr. Considine then becomes the executive of the law which we are teaching the Irish to love and respect, and proceeds to enforce by battering-ram and bayonet the payment of the rent he had just declared to be unjust. The tenants, not being able to appreciate the justice of enforcing an unjust rent, resist manfully, but are at last overpowered by superior force. Thereupon Mr. Considine assumes a third character, that of an impartial magistrate, and sits in judgment upon the men against whom he had just been levying war in defence of an unjust rent. And yet there are good Unionists who marvel at the perversity of the Irish in not joyfully accepting English administration as the perfection of ideal justice!

There is both confirmation and extension this morning of the reports concerning the "White Pasha" in the Bahr-el-Gazelle. There is certainly a white man there, says the *Times* correspondent at Suakin, and there is this further evidence about him: (1) He is known as Abu Dign—*i.e.*, "Father of Beards." (2) He has with him a large number of men almost without clothes. These fresh points are said to make strongly for the identification of the White Pasha with Stanley. As for the beard, that does not go far; indeed, it is little more than a picturesque synonym for a white man. At home Stanley wears a moustache only; but in Africa he does no doubt like all other white men who travel there, and lets his beard grow. But the Father of Beards is at the head, it seems, of a naked army. And if these men come, as is supposed, from the Niam-Niam country, that would be a strong point in favour of the Stanley theory. Meanwhile, what is certain is the terror which the advent of the White Pasha is causing the people of Khartoum. The ghost of Gordon haunts them still.

What is the real issue in the pending Presidential contest in the United States? Every one will of course answer, "Free Trade;" but therein, as Mr. Hurlbert points out in this morning's *Times*, every one will not necessarily be right. For "Free Trade" means a very different thing in America from what it means in England. In America it means the entire abolition of Custom Houses and Customs duties—the system, that is to say, which is actually in force within the self-contained area of the United States themselves. In England, on the other hand, we only mean by "Free Trade" the opposite of Protection—a system, that is to say, which, though not inconsistent with levying duties for revenue purposes, does not levy them expressly to exclude foreign industries. Now, what the Democrats really go for is Free Trade, as between America and other countries, in the *English* sense. But what the Republicans represent the Democrats as going for is international Free Trade in the *American* sense. Hence, when Englishmen applaud President Cleveland for his "Free Trade" policy, they play unwittingly—Mr. Hurlbert complains—into Mr. Blaine's hands. We only mean Free Trade in the English sense but in America the words are taken in the American sense, and in that sense Free Trade would mean the sacrifice of existing customs revenue, and the substitution of that amount of direct taxation.

"It is not generally known," writes a correspondent, "that a number of persons other than members of the Walter family have a pecuniary interest in the *Times*. One of these smaller shareholders was heard to complain the other day that the dividends were becoming smaller by degrees and beautifully less, and that consequently his income has been seriously curtailed. This was owing to a gradually decreasing circulation; and, as may be imagined, these capitalists by no means relish the heavy cost—past and prospective—involved in 'Parnellism and Crime.'"

Here is a delightful specimen of feminine logic extracted from the comic columns in which the *Daily Telegraph's* correspondents are discussing the gravest of all social problems. "Constance" writes from Guildford:—

> I am utterly astonished that any woman of refinement and culture should speak against marriage. I look upon anything else as a disgrace and a shame. At the same time I consider that greater facilities ought to be afforded for divorce. When husband and wife are wretched together, why should the law condemn them to live so?

It would puzzle most people to define the difference between "Constance's" marriage dissoluble by consent—for that is what divorce for wretchedness amounts to—and the "disgraceful and shameful" suggestions of Mrs. Caird which "Constance" so vehemently condemns. But there is everything in a name, and so long as the union between man and woman is called marriage, people of the "Constance" type are quite content that divorce made easy should practically reduce it to the status of a temporary liaison, terminable like any other contract by due notice from either side.

Mr. Acworth's letter in the *Times* this morning contains the true answer to those who shake their heads at the "dangerous speed" of the new expresses to Edinburgh. It is alleged that these expresses not only jeopardize the safety of passengers, but put a fresh and intolerable strain on the nerves of the drivers. In yesterday's papers, for instance, there was a story of the perilous feat of the stoker in crawling along to grease the wheels, and it was represented that the work was rendered specially dangerous by the speed of the Edinburgh express. But the fact is, Mr. Acworth points out, that hundreds of comparatively slow trains often run for limited distances quite as fast as the Edinburgh racers. The only difference is that the latter keep the pace up. There is no new element of danger in that; and as for the nerves of passengers and drivers, there is far more strain in a succession of halts and spurts than in continuous speed.

Investigations conducted at Dresden tend to show that there is very little danger of the spread of infection by means of books. Much-thumbed volumes from the town library were found to contain no microbes of an infectious character. At the same time the investigators advise (and the moral is excellent) that readers should refrain from damping their fingers in turning over leaves, as this is the sure way to attract any stray bacilli that may be lurking around. So far as it goes, the report is reassuring, but it does not convince us that a three-volume novel fresh from the hands of a scarlet-fever convalescent in active progress of desquamation, is the book to choose for family reading. Those of Mr. Mudie's clients who are still nervous on the subject may allay their tremors by soaking their books for two days in a bath of spirit containing 10 per cent. of carbolic acid. This, we are assured, destroys the bacilli without injuring the book.

The tyrant monopolist is still exerting his unjust privileges. At the Westminster police-court, the Gas Light and Coke Company has just summoned a Mr. Darbyshire, of Teddington, for £2 8*s.* 6*d.* for gas which he had not consumed. The defence was that in 1884 the defendant went to the company's office and gave notice that he was leaving the house. Two days later a servant of the company went to disconnect the supply. To him Mrs. Darbyshire kindly suggested that it might save trouble if the supply were left on for the new tenant, and the hint was taken. Since then the "new tenant" consumed and paid for gas regularly until March, 1887, since which time he has disappeared; and, being unable to get payment from their just debtor, the company now proceeded against Mr. Darbyshire! Mr. Biron held that he must pay, because his original contract with the company could only be terminated by written notice, which he had never given, and told him that until such notice was given he was liable for all gas consumed on the premises! We do not believe that this is good law; but in any case it is a monstrous decision. It is opposed to every principle of justice and of common-sense that a man should be bound by such a contract to pay for what he has never had.

MR. PARNELL GOES SHOOTING IN SCOTLAND.

THE BIRDS "LIE" WELL—ESPECIALLY ONE OLD COCK.

[*We understand that the gun used by the Member for Cork has been previously tested at Birmingham with satisfactory results.*]

NEW BOOKS.

"BRITISH BIRDS."

"British Birds: an Illustrated Manual." By Howard Saunders, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c. (London: Gurney and Jackson.) It seldom falls to our lot to welcome a technical book more heartily than we do Mr. Saunders's admirable "Manual." Popular as the subject is, it has certainly not been neglected by authors of recent years, and it might be thought that the excellent fourth edition of Yarrell's "British Birds," recently completed, and practically rewritten—partly by the same author—would have satisfied all requirements for some years to come. Yarrell, however, is an expensive work of four volumes, containing a vast amount of information, anecdote, and collateral matter, which, though interesting and pertinent, is not absolutely essential to illustrate the life-history of the various subjects. The scheme of this "Manual" (which is being issued in twenty parts at one shilling each) is to condense into a single volume a succinct account—limited to a double page for each species—of all the main facts of the habits, plumage, migrations, and geographical distribution of every British bird. In the four parts already issued the author has succeeded in carrying out his design with marked ability; and when we add that each bird is also illustrated by an excellent woodcut, the handiness and utility of the Manual will be readily recognized. Among naturalists, Mr. Saunders's experience and ornithological acumen are established facts; but it is not to a limited class that this book should appeal. A general knowledge of any scientific subject is always a desirable acquisition, and that of ornithology can never be more easily or pleasantly attained than by the perusal of these terse and graphic numbers as they successively appear.

"AMERICAN FISHES."

"American Fishes: a Popular Treatise on the Game and Food Fishes of North America." By G. Brown Goode. (London: Sampson Low and Co. 1888.) There are 1,750 varieties of fish known to inhabit American waters: over three hundred of these have only been recognized within the last six years, and possibly the succeeding half-dozen may add as many more to that portentous list. It is obviously impossible to deal fully with so vast a mass of subjects within the compass of any ordinary book, and the author of the present volume does not attempt to do so. In America Mr. Goode is a recognized authority on icthyology; but he here discards technicalities, and treats of the finny subject in the interests of anglers and general lovers of nature (as well as of the "second course") in a manner which will, we are sure, be appreciated across the herring-pond. We must admit we are hardly so sure of the Cisatlantic attractiveness of the work, since even the names of the great majority of American fish are unknown to British readers. The New-World nomenclature is certainly not euphonious, as such names as hog-choker, wall-eye, and sheep's-head will testify; while the pronunciation of others would come more readily to a Red Indian tongue—*e.g.*, sah-quai, malashaganay, squeteague, and suk-kegh. The volume contains 500 pages, and is well "got up," and illustrated by a number of clearly drawn engravings and photographs.

THE STORY OF ASSYRIA.

"Assyria." By Zénaïde A. Ragozin. (T. Fisher Unwin, and G. P. Putnam, New York.) In this volume (belonging to the series, "Stories of the Nations") M. Ragozin carries on the subject commenced in his "Chaldæa." To a certain extent the two subjects overlap. But both confusion and repetition are avoided and the two volumes happily supplement each other. We cannot follow in detail M. Ragozin's narrative. It must suffice to say that it is the work of an expert, that it shows much ingenuity and felicity of illustration, and that it has no inconsiderable literary merit. The explanation of the Jonah legend is curious. The word "Ninua" (Nineveh) resembles "Ninu" or *Fish*. "The big fish that swallowed Jonah was no other than Nineveh, the Fish-City itself, where he must surely have been sufficiently encompassed by dangers to warrant his desperate cry for deliverance." But this is qualified by an emphatic "perhaps," and the book of Jonah remains "in many ways puzzling."

CORRESPONDENCE.

RE MR. RIDER HAGGARD AND THE TATTOOED WILL.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—The following story may be of interest to your readers at the present time. It shows that whether Mr. Haggard conveyed his plot from M. Aubert or not, at any rate, the notion had suggested itself to others even earlier, though no doubt it was quite original with the latter writer. You give 1886 as the date of M. Aubert's "Les Nouvelles Amoureuses," but it was a good many years earlier that I first heard my father, a solicitor, tell an anecdote of a distinguished conveyancing barrister which very happily embodies the same idea. As far as I can remember it was this:—The learned counsel received papers stating a case for his opinion. A man (so they stated) had been suddenly taken ill at sea; he wished to make his will, but no paper or writing material of any kind was forthcoming; in this extremity the one resource was to tattoo the dying man's last wishes upon the skin of his own back; he himself tattooed his signature upon his leg in front; the witnesses tatooed theirs upon his back. The man died; his skin was taken off, and the will was now, if possible, to be proved. One question in dispute was whether his own signature was good—whether, in fact, there was sufficient "solidarity" between it and the body of the document, and so forth. A further question was whether the witnesses could be properly said to have signed the will in the "presence" of the testator. The conveyancer found the question no easy one to solve, and after racking his brains for some time sent for his pupils in order to share the difficulty with them, and have the advantage of their suggestions. But their gravity was not very long proof against the ludicrous spectacle of their tutor's solemn perplexity, and an explosion of laughter soon gave his problem a somewhat quicker solution than he had expected. The day happened to be the 1st of April.—Yours sincerely,

F. W. S.

Oxford, August 15.

THE CUSTOMS UNION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Durban on the 18th of July, says:—It is possible that some disappointment will be felt in England if, as now seems almost certain will be the case, Natal rejects the proposals put forward at the Conference recently held in Cape Town for the forming of a Customs union between the Cape Colony, the Free State, and Natal. That the formation of such a union upon a fair basis would be a step towards a further consolidation of South African interests there can be no doubt. The view entertained in Natal, however, is that such a fair basis does not as yet exist, and that in adhering to the proposals made at the Cape Town Conference Natal would be giving up great and substantial advantages without receiving any equivalent in return. The two distinct advantages offered to Natal by the Conference were the construction of a through trunk line connecting the Cape Colony and Natal railway systems by way of the Free State, and the admission of Natal sugar into Cape ports at a reduced rate of duty. The first of these advantages has been destroyed by the action of the Free State, which, while adhering to its claim for a large share of the duties collected at the colonial ports, has practically declined to do anything to further railway extension through its territory. As regards the advantage offered to the Natal sugar planters, it has been pointed out from the first that Mauritius, which competes with Natal in the Cape market, would strongly object to proposals which, if they mean anything at all, mean the subjecting of Mauritius sugar to a differential rate of duty. As a matter of fact, I know that this objection has been urged, and urged very strongly, by the Mauritius Government.

The advantages offered to Natal having thus vanished, the disadvantages are all the more plainly recognized. Natal, though about a week further from England than Cape Town, has always enjoyed a compensating advantage, so far as the inland trade is concerned, through the possession of a lower tariff. It is this low tariff, in fact, coupled with liberal arrangements for the transit of certain classes of goods under bond, at a merely nominal transit rate, that has enabled Natal to advance from the commercial depression that existed some two or three years ago to a position of unrivalled prosperity. As any agreement for a Customs union with the Cape would involve the levelling up of the Natal tariff to the Cape tariff, it is seen plainly that while such a Customs union would give Natal no kind of advantage, it would deprive her at one stroke of the inland trade that so largely contributes to her prosperity. It will readily be conceived, therefore, that the proposals emanating from the Cape Town Conference, and which have, indeed, been admitted by the Natal delegates to that Conference to be in many respects inappropriate, are viewed in Natal with extreme aversion. They are, I believe, certain to be rejected by the Legislature, which assembled for its annual session to-day, and it is not at all improbable that action will be taken having for its aim the further reducing of the Natal tariff, and the extension to all classes of goods for the interior of the transit system which has already been adopted in respect of a certain limited list of articles. This would be done, of course, with the view of meeting any claims that might be put forward by the inland States to a share in the Natal Customs duties; these States being able to collect (as the Transvaal does now) their own duties on their own borders, over and above the low transit duty payable to Natal. That Natal would make a certain sacrifice of revenue in adopting this policy, there can be no doubt. On the other hand, the large surpluses from last year and this year (surpluses already amounting to fully a quarter of a million sterling) seem to justify the change, which would have the good result of confirming the friendly relations subsisting between Natal and her inland neighbours.

It has been decided to construct a pipe for the conveyance of petroleum from Khatum to Sibi, a distance of about forty miles. The cost is estimated at 1½ lakhs of rupees.

At Home and Abroad.

The United States Senate has refused to postpone the further consideration of the Fisheries Treaty until December.

A despatch from Santiago de Cuba announces the arrival there, on board an English war vessel, of General Salomon, the deposed President of Hayti.

Lieutenant-Colonel Smith has been appointed Governor-General of Suakin, in succession to Colonel Kitchener, who assumes the post of Adjutant-General of the Egyptian Army.

The Prince of Wales and the Landgravine of Hesse arrived at Wiesbaden yesterday afternoon on a visit to the King of Denmark. His Royal Highness subsequently returned to Homberg, and the Landgravine to Rumpenheim.

The Swiss Ministers at Berlin, Vienna, Rome, and Paris, are shortly to meet at Berne to discuss the attitude of Switzerland in regard to the conclusion of commercial treaties with Germany, Austria, Italy, and France.

Yesterday the Pope did not receive several persons who were to have had an audience. Besides this, he has not for three days taken his favourite drive. These circumstances lead to the supposition that his Holiness is still unwell.

It is announced from Simla that the Thibetans in the Jelapla Pass are becoming aggressive, and that four more companies of the Derbyshire Regiment have been ordered to proceed immediately to Sikkim.

The Hon. Dadabhai Naoroji has been selected by the Central Finsbury Liberal and Radical Association as their candidate at the next election for the Central Finsbury Division.

A police fête in aid of the funds of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage took place yesterday at the Alexandra Palace. Nine police bands were in attendance. The number of persons present was estimated at 45,000.

The Russian Government, according to a St. Petersburg telegram, intends joining in the protest of the Porte against the Italian occupation of Massowah. It is also stated that recent events in France and a dread of the Social question have induced the Russian Government to gravitate towards Berlin.

A Phylloxera Congress, the first held in Austria-Hungary, has assembled at Fünfkirchen. According to one opinion carbonate of sulphur extensively applied would prove even more effective than the introduction of the American vine. This view, however, gave rise to a long and animated discussion.

One of Admiral Tryon's cruisers was seen off Calais yesterday, and two cruisers from Admiral Baird's squadron off Dover went out, engaged, and captured it. The fight was watched from the cliffs of Dover by large crowds of persons.

At the Dalston police-court yesterday the Rev. Thomas Clark, described as a Baptist minister, was committed for trial on the charge of having obtained 5s. by false pretences. It is alleged that the accused collected subscriptions for a bogus mission.

The directors of the Warwick and Leamington Tramway Company, at the annual meeting held yesterday, reported that it would be impossible to pay any dividend for the past year, in consequence of the serious loss occasioned by the failure of the company's late bankers, Messrs. Greenway and Company.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Bower Cottril, of Margaret-square, Brockley, Kent, appeared at the Guildhall police-court yesterday to answer an adjourned summons, charging her with obtaining by false pretences three bankers' cheques, value £400, with intent to defraud. The case was adjourned.

At Ferndale, Rhondda Valley, yesterday, a collier's wife, named Susannah Thomas, aged fifty-seven years, died from dreadful injuries sustained a few hours previously through the explosion of a paraffin lamp which she was carrying.

A girl named Partin, residing at Saltney, near Chester, went to the railway station yesterday with her mother, who was going to Wrexham. After the train had started the girl was crossing the line to leave the station, when the Great Western Birmingham express to Chester came up and cut her to pieces.

An International Conference on Internal Waterways will open at Frankfort-on-Main on Monday next, August 20. The Government have appointed as their representatives at the Congress Mr. Courtenay Boyle, C.B., Assistant Secretary (Railway Department) of the Board of Trade, and Mr. Leader Williams, C.E., engineer to the Manchester Ship Canal.

A petition has been sent to the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects by the representative committee of the wood carvers of London, asking for the support and sympathy of the architectural profession in their efforts to raise a school of wood carving in England which may be a credit to the country and compare favourably with that of any other nation in Europe.

At Abbeville yesterday morning, General Boulanger proceeded to the cemetery to lay a wreath on Admiral Courbet's tomb, the populace being prevented by the authorities from following him. On his return, however, he addressed the crowd, whereupon further disturbances ensued, and several arrests were made.

Sir J. P. Corry, M.P., in giving evidence at a Board of Trade inquiry at Belfast yesterday touching the loss of the steamer *Lismore* near San Domingo in June last, said the result of the deliberations of the Parliamentary Grand Committee on Trade and Shipping, of which he was a member, would be the reduction of the number of boats allowable for sailing vessels.

Dr. James Gloster was brought up from Holloway Gaol and charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt, at Westminster yesterday, with causing the death of Eliza Schummacher, at Pimlico, by means of an unlawful operation. The magistrate, having intimated that he should commit the accused for trial, ordered a remand.

The inquest on the body of Mrs. Susan Rayner, an elderly person, who died after being savagely beaten about the head by a woman named Catherine Church, whom she had prosecuted for using foul language, was concluded at Canterbury yesterday, when the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Church, who is in custody.

At Southsea late on Wednesday night a man was noticed by persons on the pier to be struggling in the water, and though life-buoys were thrown and boats put off to his assistance, he was seen to sink from apparent exhaustion. Nothing has been discovered to lead to identification. Yesterday morning Harry Williams, a barman at Southsea, was drowned while bathing.

During Wednesday night a hawker named Street, who was lying in the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, in charge of a police-constable, he having attempted to murder his wife and then cut his own throat, evaded the officer and threw himself over a balustrade. He received such shocking injuries that he died yesterday.

DESPERATE EVICTION STRUGGLE IN WEXFORD.

AN ARMED FORCE KEPT AT BAY FOR EIGHT HOURS.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES.

Early yesterday morning a force of about two hundred police set out from Duncannan, co. Wexford, to act as a protecting force for the sheriff of Wexford (Mr. Connor) in carrying out the evictions on the property of Mr. James F. Byrne, at Buckestown, about ten miles from New Ross. The tenants have for the last two years adopted and adhered to the Plan of Campaign, the landlord having refused to give any abatement on the rent then due. Yesterday Mr. Considine, R.M., who was in charge of the force, expressed the opinion that the offer made by the tenants ought to be accepted; and Mr. Byrne, who has been christened in the locality "Clanricarde the Second," was appealed to by magistrates, priests, and others to come to terms, but without avail.

EARTHWORKS TO THE HEIGHT OF TWENTY FEET.

The house of the tenant was strongly barricaded, earthworks to the height of twenty feet having been thrown up outside the house, and outside these again trenches were dug to a depth of five feet. Large gates and bars were fastened with chains to the windows of the upper part of the house. The police and the sheriff arrived about half past nine o'clock, and after some delay in bringing up the battering ram and the scaling ladders to the house, the lane leading to it having been blocked, Mr. Considine warned the inmates of the house that should they break the law they would be severely dealt with; but the only reply was a shout of laughter, and cries of, "Come on, you hounds."

THE EMERGENCY MEN GIVE UP THE STRUGGLE.

The sheriff's bailiffs repeatedly attempted to place the scaling ladders against the walls, but they were repeatedly thrown back again by those inside. The battering-ram was then placed in position, amidst the cheers of the crowd, followed by showers of hot and cold water and rotten eggs from those inside the house. The struggle lasted from about ten in the morning till about half-past one in the afternoon, when the emergency men gave up the fight. At one time the battering-ram was almost in working order, when grappling-irons thrown from the roof of the house fastened in the tripod of the battering-ram, and with a chuckle the defenders of the house pulled the huge poles to the ground. Stones were thrown from the top of the house, and Woods—the leader of the Emergency men—being, as he alleged, struck, drew a revolver and threatened to fire. One of the officials ordered him to put it up, and not to draw it again.

"WELL DONE, MY LADS!"

While the excitement of the struggle was at its height, Mr. John Redmond, M.P., Mr. W. K. Redmond, M.P., and Mr. E. Walsh, of Wexford, rushed into the yard, and Mr. W. Redmond called out to the inmates of the house, "Well done, my gallant countrymen! well done, my lads!" Mr. Considine said if he did not stop doing so he should leave the yard; but Mr. Redmond paid no attention to the order, but added, "You've beaten the battering ram, my lads; and may God bless you!" The landlord having been again appealed to in vain, forty policemen were ordered to rush up the earthworks, so as to effect an entrance through the roof. They did so, but were compelled to retire, some of them being wounded in the head and face.

BAYONETS BEATEN BACK.

Eventually twenty men were ordered to charge with bayonets fixed, and a fierce encounter ensued, the men on the top of the house repelling the police with bars of iron and other weapons. One policeman was stunned and fell to the ground, and immediately afterwards the others rushed down the earthworks. Canon Doyle and Messrs. Redmond both protested against the charge, and Canon Doyle asked who ordered it. Mr. Considine replied that it was he, when Canon Doyle said, "Well, Considine, you are a coward." Mr. Considine said he was performing an unpleasant duty, and should have to take a sterner course if the men did not yield. After a further unavailing attempt on the part of some Scotch priests to have a settlement effected, it was resolved to make another attempt to take the house, and about fifty police in two companies were ordered to scale the earthworks at the east gable. On their reaching the breaches which the inmates had made in the wall, iron bars and poles were thrust out, and showers of water, tar, and other stuff were thrown on the policemen. The police used stones, which they threw at the men inside the house, but the latter kept up the fight with great spirit.

BURNED OUT AFTER EIGHT HOURS' RESISTANCE.

The policemen fell away one after the other. One young constable mounted the roof, and was using his bayonet, it is said without orders, when he was struck with a pole, and fell senseless to the ground, badly cut and bruised, and his uniform in tatters. It was by this time near six o'clock in the evening, when Canon Doyle and Messrs. Redmond, seeing that the gable end of the house was on fire, and the inmates in danger, advised them to surrender, which they reluctantly did. They were twelve in number, including the tenant (James Somers) and his two sons, his brothers, and eight others, neighbours of the tenant. They were brought before Mr. Considine, R.M., and remanded for a week.

THE STRIKE AGITATION IN PARIS.

A few days ago it seemed as if the agitation caused by the strikes was gradually dying out, but it has broken out afresh. At St. Ouen and St. Denis, on Wednesday, no fewer than sixty arrests were made, though the great majority of the people taken into custody were released at night. They were for the most part strikers from Paris, who attempted to constrain the men occupied there to cease work. The latter offered of themselves a stout resistance, and a veritable battle was engaged in. A large number of the combatants received injuries, and one workman was seriously wounded before the arrival of the gendarmes.

At the meeting held on Wednesday night at St. Ouen by the navvies and carpenters, M. Boule railed against M. Floquet and every member of the Government, making them solely responsible for the present movement. He protested most strongly against the arrest of the strikers, and proposed, amidst great applause, that the children of all the men who had been apprehended should present themselves to the Police Commissaries of their districts, demanding to be lodged and fed. The authorities could not, he affirmed, allow them to starve.

Yesterday the news from the Exhibition works was bad. On the Esplanade des Invalides work was almost completely stopped; on the Quai d'Orsay there were but few workmen to be seen, and on the Champ de Mars the situation was no better. During the whole day large bands of workmen were parading the town seeking to get workmen of all trades to join the movement.

A STRIKING SPEECH BY THE EMPEROR WILLIAM.

BIG BATTALIONS AND NO SURRENDER.

The Emperor William, accompanied by Prince Leopold, was present yesterday at the unveiling of a monument to Prince Frederick Charles at Frankfort-on-the-Oder. At a luncheon subsequently given in the town-hall, the chief burgomaster expressed gratification at the Emperor's visit, and concluded by calling for cheers for his Majesty.

The Emperor, in reply, expressed his thanks for the cordial reception extended to him, and said that he well knew how to appreciate the ties of fervent and faithful devotion which for centuries past had united the Prussian people to the House of Hohenzollern. "The Emperor William I.," continued his Majesty, "knew well whom he selected when he conferred the command of the Third Army Corps upon Prince Frederick Charles. The Prince's iron frame, his powerful will, and his strategic genius rendered him eminently qualified for the command of that army corps, and for training the sons of Brandenburg to be the soldiers who fought the battle of Vionville. This is a serious time. The Emperor William, the Emperor Frederick, Prince Frederick Charles, and other great military commanders who helped to create the Empire, are no more, but they will continue to live in the memory of the German people for ever. Just as the people of Brandenburg, with iron strength and indefatigable activity, wrest a livelihood from the sterile soil of the province, so has the Third Army Corps wrested victory from the enemy. But the deeds which the corps has accomplished it owes to the late Prince. There can be no question of surrendering what has been gained. Upon this point there is only one mind, namely, that our eighteen army corps and our 42 million inhabitants should rather be left on the field than that we should permit even one stone of Alsace-Loraine to be taken from us. With this sentiment I drink to the welfare of my Brandenburg people, the town of Frankfort-on-the-Oder, and the Third Army Corps."

After the unveiling of the statue the Emperor took a drive through the streets, being everywhere enthusiastically cheered. His Majesty returned to Potsdam at two o'clock.

THE "WHITE PASHA" IN THE SOUDAN.

IN FAVOUR OF THE STANLEY THEORY.

A Suakin telegram to the *Times* says:—The reports concerning the white man in the Bahr-el-Gazelle are confirmed. He is known as Abu Dign (that is, "Father of Beards"). His force is said to be of enormous strength. A large number of men, almost without clothes, probably from the Niam-Niam country, or Denka, are with him. My informant laid special stress upon this statement, which surprised and alarmed the people of Khartoum, and which would seem to be a strong point in favour of the theory that Abu Dign is Mr. H. M. Stanley. The Khalifa has sent 5,000 men, with 200 horsemen, to Fashoda, by way of Kordofan.

The Abyssinians have severely defeated the dervishes, under Abu Anga, between Metammeh and Gondar. The Abyssinians are in strong force in Galabat, and King John has sworn a great oath to capture Khartoum. The Khalifa is greatly alarmed.

LUPTON PASHA'S DEATH CONFIRMED.

The report of Lupton Pasha's death is confirmed by an eye-witness. He died about the 1st of July of consumption, or some other chest disease, after a short illness, and was buried as a Mahommedan, with a public funeral. The Khalifa was much affected at Lupton Pasha's death, as he had made himself so useful in the arsenal. He leaves an Abyssinian wife and one daughter.

The Amarars and Hamdabs have looted a caravan of grain and goods bound for Osman Digna. The Gemalads have seized some goods sent by Osman Digna on the Kassala-Berber route, thus showing their hostility to the Khalifa's rule. Osman Digna has sent 800 men to punish these tribes, but it is not improbable that they will break his power. This resort to raiding and fighting has not been brought about by the Egyptian Government in any way whatever. The neighbouring tribes are heartily tired of Mahdism, and Osman's followers are daily becoming more discontented.

THE ITALIAN DEFEAT IN ABYSSINIA.

A further despatch from General Baldissera to the Italian Minister of War has been received giving details of the engagement at Sanganeiti with the Abyssinians, and expressing his positive belief that all the Italian officers were killed. The Commander-in-Chief concludes by expressing his admiration of their heroic conduct.

MORE ABOUT THE DUEL BY WOMEN.

The *Dix-Neuvième Siècle*, as briefly mentioned yesterday, has received the following extraordinary account of a duel between two young ladies at Cannes. The correspondent of that journal affirms the absolute truth of his statements. Two young ladies of good birth, well known and highly esteemed in the town, had fallen in love with the same young gentleman, who was also of a good family. Having become mortal enemies, the young ladies resolved to decide who should be the young man's wife by a duel, which was not to cease till one of them should be killed or mortally wounded. According to the correspondent of the journal referred, to they were as good as their word. The duel took place at five o'clock in the morning, the weapons chosen being pistols. The younger lady, only eighteen years old, was wounded in the left arm, the bone of which was shattered. Her adversary, four years her senior, was mortally wounded in the breast. The tragic event is said to have produced a great sensation in the town; but the correspondents at Cannes of the other Parisian journals have not yet, says the *Standard* correspondent, alluded to it.

DEATH OF M. EMILE HENNEQUIN.

The *Academy* announces the sudden death of one of the most brilliant writers of "jeune France," M. Emile Hennequin. This will be painful news to many in England as well as in his own country. M. Hennequin, though he had accomplished so much, was only thirty years old. He was extremely popular in all literary circles in Paris, and was hailed as one of the foremost critics of the day, not only by the younger men, but by the elder, including M. Taine, who from the first recognized in the young writer a man of rare insight and literary skill. A week or two ago M. Hennequin went to visit his artist friend, Odilon Redon, at Samois, near Fontainebleau. While bathing he was overtaken by a severe congestion of the chest (always his weak part) as the result of the cold shock, and in a few minutes he succumbed. He leaves a young widow and a one-year-old daughter, now almost destitute. He was one of the chief political writers on the staff of *Le Temps*. He also contributed literary articles to the *Journal des Débats*, and was partly responsible for the editorship of *La Nouvelle Revue*.

NOTICE.

A Story of Modern Life, by Mr. Grant Allen, entitled "Dr. Palliser's Patient," will begin to appear in the PALL MALL GAZETTE *on Monday next, the 20th inst., and will run from day to day until completed on Tuesday, August 28.*

FOURTH EDITION.

TERRIBLE COLLISION IN THE ATLANTIC.

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEEN LIVES LOST.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

NEW YORK, August 16.—The Hamburg-American Company's steamer *Wieland*, which has arrived here, brings intelligence of a collision between the steamers *Thingvalla* and *Geiser* at four o'clock on the morning of the 14th inst., when off Sable Island. The *Geiser* sank five minutes after the collision, and of her passengers and crew only fourteen of the former and seventeen of the latter, including Captain Moller, were saved, the remainder, comprising seventy-two passengers and thirty-three of the crew, being drowned. The *Thingvalla* sustained serious damage, and transferred the passengers, who numbered 455 persons, to the *Wieland*, in which vessel they were conveyed here, together with the survivors of the *Geiser*. The *Thingvalla* will endeavour to reach Halifax.

NEW YORK, August 17.—Later reports regarding the collision between the *Thingvalla* and *Geiser* state that seventy-eight passengers and thirty-five of the crew of the latter vessel were lost, including the first officer, purser, first, second, and third engineers, and the steward and stewardess. Up to midnight nothing further was known respecting the *Thingvalla*, which it is thought may be steaming to New York.

Many of the *Geiser's* passengers were excursionists from Minnesota. Very few succeeded in reaching the deck, most of them being drowned in their berths.

The *Geiser* was an iron screw-steamer, of 2,831 gross tons, built at Copenhagen in 1881, and the *Thingvalla* was an iron screw-steamer, of 2,524 gross tons, built at Copenhagen in 1874. Both steamers belong to the Thingvalla Line, are owned in Copenhagen, and run between that port and New York.

THE SECRETARY OF THE "PARNELL COMMISSION."

"A RANK AND RABID UNIONIST."

The statement which we published yesterday from a correspondent—to the effect that Mr. Cunynghame, the secretary of the *Times* Relief Commission, is a Home Ruler—is, we have reason to believe, incorrect. The whole Commission is, we understand, of a uniform Unionist colour.

So far from being "a good Home Ruler," Mr. Cunynghame has the reputation of being—so we are informed—"a rank and rabid Unionist," and there is reason to believe that, at one time at any rate, he held a strong view with regard to the letters which the *Times* attributes to Mr. Parnell.

It is understood that Mr. Cunynghame was appointed to the post of Secretary through the influence of Sir James Hannen, who is reported to be a strong Unionist.

If this be so, it will be seen that, so far as political opinions are concerned, the Commission remains absolutely one-sided.

Mr. Cunynghame, we understand, recently resigned his membership of the Eighty Club, owing to his being no longer in harmony with the prevailing political sentiment of the members.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

A PROTEST TO ITALY ABOUT ZULA.

ALEXANDRIA, August 17.—Acting under directions from the Porte, the Egyptian Government has addressed a protest to the Italian Consul-General against the establishment of an Italian protectorate over Zula.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

AMIENS, August 17.—General Boulanger returned here last evening. At each place he stopped yesterday he was received with mingled cheers and groans.

THE GREENBACK PARTY

NEW YORK, August 17.—A call has been issued for a national Convention of the Greenback Party at Cincinnati on the 12th prox.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND.

It is stated in Berlin that the Empress Frederick has the intention of purchasing as a summer residence the castle of Tenneberg, near Waltershausen, which she visited on Tuesday. The castle is beautifully situated on a high hill. Her Majesty inspected the rooms and grounds, and was accompanied by a Berlin architect.

The Empress Frederick will go to Scotland at the commencement of September, and will make a stay of about four weeks. On her return she will spend a few days with Prince Henry at Kiel, and then take up her residence with her daughters at Berlin. In February she will go to San Remo for several weeks and stay at the Villa Zirio.

THE MOUNTAIN ACCIDENT IN SWITZERLAND.

A Geneva telegram to the *Daily News* says:—The body of Mr. Ball, who recently met with his death on the Dent du Midi has been found. It has been brought down to Territet for burial.

THE PRINCESS STILL A PROTESTANT.

There is no truth in the statement that Princess Christian is about to join the Roman Catholic Church, and we (*Standard*) have the best authority for saying that there is not the slightest foundation for the rumour.

THE SHOEBURYNESS MEETING.

The average for each detachment in the ten-inch gun competition is 16.30. Last year's average was 17·77.

The Devon and Carnarvon detachments and the Dorset and Cheshire detachments had departed by nine o'clock, and the remainder of the division left by special train at eleven o'clock to-day.

A TOURIST DROWNED WHILST BATHING.

Mr. George Lloyd, a visitor from Treharris, at Aberystwith, was bathing on Rowfawr beach with another gentleman to-day, when he was suddenly seized with cramp. His companion swam to his aid, and was seized by the drowning man. A struggle for life ensued, and loud cries were raised for help. A boat was put out, but Lloyd sank, and his companion sustained a very narrow escape.

NOTES FROM HAWARDEN CASTLE.

A number of Liberals from Nottingham paid a visit to Hawarden Castle in the course of yesterday, and had the pleasure of seeing Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone. The ex-Premier, who appeared delighted at the visit, did not address the gentlemen. Complete arrangements are being made for the visit of the Burslem Liberal deputation on Monday morning next. There are no guests at the Castle.

AN ADMIRALTY OFFICE REVIVED.

The Exchange Telegraph Company understands that the Board of Admiralty has decided to revive the office of Director of Transports, which was abolished after Lord Charles Beresford's resignation last year. No provision was made in the current year's estimates for the office and the £1,000 a year which had been previously provided for the office, is shown as a saving. The appointment has now been definitely made, and on the 20th inst. Captain Harry Brent, now in command of her Majesty's ship *Royal Adelaide*, guardship at Devonport, will be relieved of his command, and will take up the new position. This will mean an addition to the navy estimates of £1,000.

MONT BLANC ASCENDED BY A GIRL AGED TWELVE.

A telegram from Chamounix to the *Liverpool Post* says:—Miss Florence Morse, a young lady aged twelve years, made the ascent of Mont Blanc on Tuesday, in company with Messrs. Evans, Coggin, and Viegen, the ascent being made without breaking the journey for a night at the Grands Mulets, as is customary. The ascent was made partly with mules. As far as the juvenile montagnarde is concerned, she has established a record.

A NATIONAL PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

As already briefly reported, a meeting called by circular, was held in the library of the Liverpool Reform Club, yesterday, to consider the desirability of appointing a committee to organize a fund for the defence of Mr. Parnell. Mr. H. W. Meade-King presided, and there was a numerous attendance, including most of the leaders of the Liberal party, exclusive of several pronounced Dissentients. No Nationalist was present. On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. William Crosfield, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, it is desirable to form a Parnell expenses fund to assist Mr. Parnell and his colleagues in defraying the heavy expenses which must be incurred in connection with the accusations of the *Times* newspaper. An influential committee, including Mr. Holt, a Liberal leader in Liverpool; Mr. John Lovell, editor of the *Liverpool Mercury*; Mr. E. R. Russell, editor of the *Liverpool Post*; and many well-known merchants and manufacturers, was formed for the purpose of promoting a Parnell Defence Fund, and inviting the co-operation of Liberals in other towns so as make the movement national. Several thousand pounds, it is said, were promised.

The *Liverpool Mercury*, in commending the fund to the attention of the country, says:—"It may be thought that the honourable member has the funds of the National League at his back, or other accumulated resources proceeding from sympathizers in America. We do not believe he has any resources whatever, beyond his own personal possessions, from which he would draw a penny. It is now tolerably well known that of all the generous sums which have flowed into the Irish Nationalist treasury, Mr. Parnell has put none to his own use."

The *Freeman's Journal* says the spontaneous action of the English Liberals in raising a fund for the defence of the leader of the Irish National movement is one of the most notable instances of the progress of England and Ireland to friendship of the fastest nature, and should spur all honest, true Irishmen to redouble their efforts to come out of this close struggle with credit and in triumph.

Sir James Hannen, the president of the Parnellite Commission, is reported to have left town last night for a short holiday. He will return in a week, so as to be ready for any emergency that may arise in connection with the *cause célèbre*. The proceedings (says the London correspondent of the *Manchester Courier*) are not expected to last very long, and the Government do not intend to make any provision for filling the places of the judges who will be engaged in deciding the case.

Mr. Mackintosh (Dean of Faculty), Mr. J. P. B. Robertson (Solicitor-General for Scotland), and Mr. A. Graham Murray have been retained as counsel for the *Times* in the Scotch case.

Mr. Balfour is still detained in Dublin with official work.

This morning the Attorney-General for Ireland left Kingstown for England.

The Prime Minister was among the guests at a dinner given by Baron H. De Worms last night.

Count Wolkenstein, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to Russia, has returned to St. Petersburg from leave of absence.

The correspondents of the *Jewish Standard* have decided that Mr. B. L. Farjeon is "the best Jewish author."

The death has just taken place at Cheltenham of the Rev. James Thomas Conolly Saunders, in his ninety-third year. His last of several appointments was the Vicarage of Far Forest, near Bewdley.

The professorship of Commerce and Commercial Law at King's College, London, vacant by the death of Professor Leone Levi, has been conferred on Mr. James Gault, barrister, of the Middle Temple.

BISHOP RYLE AND THE PAN-ANGLICAN CONFERENCE.

The Bishop of Liverpool's letter in the *Times*, says a correspondent writing from Liverpool, has created considerable surprise, the more so as one of the papers here on the previous day published *in extenso* what the Bishop had "prepared" for the Lambeth Conference on the question of emigration. Whether the substance of it was delivered at Lambeth is not clear, but it is well known that his lordship only attended the first week's group of sessions; that although he was on the committee on emigration he was not in London during its sessions, and that during the last week, when reports of committees were received, he was almost the only English Bishop absent. It seems, therefore, somewhat inconsistent for him to complain that he has not seen the Encyclical, when he might have been at Lambeth, and for the same reason, quite independently of the wisdom or unwisdom of the views enunciated, the Bishop can hardly complain that the Evangelical does not condemn what he considers Roman errors and practices in the Anglican Church. Why did he not lift up his voice before his brethren instead of at first holding aloof, and then complaining at what was done in his absence?

PROSPECTIVE STOPPAGE OF THE RAILWAY RACING.

It is reported that on the 31st inst. the special Edinburgh expresses which were put on at the beginning of the month by the London and North Western and Great Northern Railway Companies will be discontinued, but that the other express services will go on. As a result of interviews between the managers of the companies other changes may shortly be announced, but nothing has as yet been definitely settled. There is said to be no truth in the statement that the North Western Company has threatened to extend the competition of fast trains unless the "racing" is discontinued.

THE CABBIES VICTORIOUS.

The strike of cabdrivers in the employ of Mrs. Kite, of Clerkenwell, who has the contract for the supply of privileged cabs at Liverpool-street station, was brought to a successful termination yesterday. The men, about 125 in number, were only on strike for one day, and have had practically everything conceded to them which they demanded.

REPORTS OF CRICKET MATCHES.

SURREY v. LANCASHIRE.

There was only a poor attendance at the Oval yesterday when these counties met. Surrey went in first, and made 294; and when stumps were drawn Lancashire had scored 53 for the loss of one wicket.

The second day's play in this match opened at the Oval this morning at 11.40, the weather again being cold, dull, and cheerless. A very spare attendance of spectators witnessed the opening of play. With one wicket down for 53 runs Lancashire resumed their innings, Eccles (not out, 30) and Sugg opening to the bowling of Lohmann (Pavilion end) and Beaumont. Sugg placed 4 to his credit, and was then easily caught by Trouncer off Lohmann for 4—65 for two. Taylor came next, and at 87, having played a pluckily-hit innings of 14, he was caught by Bowden off Lohmann—87 for three. Briggs joined Eccles, and both men played out freely. At 105, W. W. Read bowled lobs, in place of Beaumont, but with no effect, so at 120 Bowley took the ball from W. W. Read, 141 going up. Abel took the ball from Lohmann, but no separation came, and the score reached 145 when M. Read took the ball from Bowley. 150 went up at 12.55.

SURREY.—First Innings.

Shuter, b Watson	51	Henderson, c Pilling, b Watson	14
Abel, st Pilling, b Steel	54	Beaumont, st Pilling, b Watson	0
Lohmann, c Yates, b Steel	5	Trouncer, run out	16
Key, c Watson, b Briggs	10	Bowley, not out	0
W. W. Read, c Pilling, b Barlow	54	Extras	3
Bowden, b Briggs	13		
M. Read, l b w, b Briggs	74	Total	294

LANCASHIRE.—First Innings.

Barlow, l b w, b Lohmann	14	Briggs, not out	3
Sugg, c Trouncer, b Lohmann	4	Extras	10
Taylor, c Bowden, b Lohmann	14		
Eccles, not out	69	Total	150

BOWLING ANALYSIS.—Surrey, First Innings.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Briggs	34.1	17	57	3
Barlow	31	12	70	1
Steel	36	12	77	2
Watson	45	22	68	3
Yates	6	2	13	0

THE AUSTRALIANS v. NOTTS.

At Nottingham yesterday the Australians had a long day in the field. Notts went in first, and when stumps were drawn had scored 359 for the loss of six wickets.

NOTTS.—First Innings.

Scotton, b Woods	4	Attewell, not out	15
Dixon, run out	49	Flowers, not out	18
Gunn, b Lyons	91	Extras	16
Barnes, c and b Woods	90		
Daft, b Ferris	34	Total	359
Beves, c Worrall, b Ferris	42		

GLOUCESTERSHIRE v. YORKSHIRE.

At Clifton yesterday W. G. Grace, for the first time since the match between the Gentlemen of England and the Australians, at Lord's last June, played an innings of over 100. He was in three hours and a half, and scored 148 out of 248. This score, we may mention, is the lowest of the three 100's he has hit this summer, his others being 215 against Sussex in Whit Week, and 165 for the Gentlemen against the Colonials, at Lord's. Gloucestershire went in first, and out of a total of 245 from the bat three batsmen—Grace, Radcliffe, and Brain—made 226, the united efforts of the other eight, not one of whom reached double figures, amounting to 19 runs. When stumps were drawn Yorkshire had lost two wickets for 25 runs.

SUSSEX v. HAMPSHIRE.

This match commenced at Brighton yesterday, and at the close of play the score was:—Sussex, first innings, 301; Hampshire, 28 for five wickets, or 193 runs to get to save the follow on.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

MARRIAGE.—DARMESTETER—ROBINSON.—On August 16th, at Kensington, Professor James Darmesteter, of the College of France, 9, Rue Bara, Paris, to A. Mary F., elder daughter of Geo. T. Robinson, of 20, Earl's-terrace, Kensington, and the White Cottage, Epsom. No cards.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

MARKETS ALL WEAK.—TRUNKS FLAT ON REVENUE STATEMENT.

A good deal of money is changing hands in the open market on account of various railway dividends and payments falling due on loans, but the rate for short loans is not better than 1½ per cent. In the discount market there is only a very quiet business passing, and though the rate for three months' bank paper is nominally 2¾ per cent., practically no business is secured at that figure. There is no anxiety to accept bills, operators preferring for the time being to keep their money well under their own control. There is less apprehension with regard to withdrawals of gold from the Bank of England, and a disposition is shown to look for a weakening rather than a hardening of rates for the next week or two.

The stock markets generally present a weak appearance, an unfavourable impression having been caused by the speech of the Emperor of Germany, there being an idea that it may possibly lead to complications. The movement in prices, however, is slight, and there is an absence of anything-like activity in any direction. The principal feature is the announcement of the Grand Trunk of Canada half yearly revenue statement, which will be found below, and which has led to a serious decline in all the speculative stocks of the company. Consols are again unchanged, and in the Home Railway market there is little alteration of importance. The Deferred stocks of the southern lines are again weak on the dull and cloudy weather, and Caledonian has lost the recovery of the opening, while Sheffield Deferred, which previously showed a rise of ¼, has fallen ½ from the best. Foreign Government Bonds have been especially affected by the Emperor's speech and are all lower, especially those securities mostly dealt in on the Berlin Bourse. The decline is not heavy but general. American Railroads are weak in response to the relapse in New York yesterday. The principal movement is in Milwaukee and St. Paul shares, other changes only ranging from ⅛ to ⅜. Grand Trunk stocks have been freely offered on the results of the half-year's working, and are heavy, particularly First Preference, and Guaranteed and Mexican Railway issues have also given way fractionally, and Mining shares are dull.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

In Home Railways.—*Receded*: Brighton Deferred ⅜, Great Eastern, Sheffield Deferred, District, and South Eastern Deferred ¼, Caledonian, Great Western, Chatham Ordinary, Midland, North British, and North Eastern ⅛.

Among Foreign Stocks.—*Declined*: Greek 1881 ½, Hungarian Gold, Italian, Portuguese, and Russian ¼, Buenos Ayres Cedulas I ¼, Egyptian Unified ¼, the Preference and Daira ⅛, Mexican and Peruvian 1870 ⅛, Turkish 1871 and Defence ¼, Groups 3 and 4 1-16, and Spanish Four per Cents. 1-16.

American Railroads.—*Improved*: Erie Second Mortgage ¼ and Mexican Central Bonds ⅛. *Fallen*: Milwaukee and St. Paul ¾, Union Pacific ½, Wabash Preference ⅜, Denver Preference ⅜, the Ordinary ⅛, Louisville and Nashville ⅜, Central Pacific, Lake Shore, New York Central, Northern Pacific Preference, Philadelphia and Reading shares, and Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, Erie shares, Norfolk and Western Preference, and Pennsylvania shares ⅛.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—*Lower*: Grand Trunk First Preference 1⅝, the Guranteed 1⅛, the Second Preference 1, the Third Preference ½, the Ordinary ¼, Mexican Second Preference ½, the Ordinary ⅜, the First Preference ¼. Nitrate shares ½, and Canada Pacific ⅛.

Bryant and May shares are up ⅛, but De Beers and Kimberley Central shares are down ¼, Mason and Barry ⅛, and Rio Tinto 1-16.

The return of the Bank of France for the past week shows an increase in the gold of £14,200, and in the silver of £13,600; the stock of the former now amounting to £43,941,280, and of the latter to £48,954,120. There is an increase in the Treasury account current of £250,560. The note circulation shows a contraction of £634,600; the other accounts current a decrease of £1,249,640; the bills discounted of £953,200; and the advances to the public of £141,000. The proportion between bullion and circulation is now 91.21 per cent. The profits for the week amount to £10,200.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet, with a fair demand. Probable sales 8,000 bales. Spot prices unchanged. Futures are steady at last night's rates. The following transactions are reported for delivery:—August-September, 31-64

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols	100⅛	⅜
New Consols 2¾ ..	99¼	⅜
Reduced 3 p.c. ..	100¼	1¼
LocalLoan Stock..	103¼	¾
New 2½ per. Cent.	95¾	6¼
India 3½ per Cent.	105½	6
Do. 4½ p.c. Rus	69⅝	⅞
Egyptian Guar. ..	102	½
Met. Bd. Wks. 5½	113	½
Do. 3 p.c. Scrip.	103½	4
BirminghamCrp.Stk.	109¼	10¼
Liverpool	111¼	¾
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentine 6 p.c. ..	103	5
Do. Hard Dols ..	69¼	¾xd
Do. Treasury	98	9
Austrian Gold	90	2
Do. Silver	66	8
Brazilian 1875	102⅛	3⅛
B. Ayres 6 p.c.	102	4
Do. Cedulas	61½	2 xd
Chilian 4½ p.c.1885	101	2
Costa Rica A	89½	90½
Do. B.	88	9
Egypt. State Dom.	101½	2
Do. Unified	83⅞	4⅛
Do. Preference..	102⅞	⅜
Do. Daira Sanieh	79	¼
French 3 p.c. Rnts	82¼	¾
Do. 4½p.c. Rnts.	103¾	4¼xd
Greek 5 p.c. 1881..	73½	4
Hung. Gold Rentes	82⅜	⅝
Italian	95⅛	⅜
Mexican Converted	39½	¾
Peruvian 5 p.c. 72	13¾	14
Do. 6 p.c.	15	¼
Portuguese	63⅞	4⅛
Russian 1873	97⅞	8⅛
Spanish 4 p.c.	72⅞	3
Turkish 1854	99	101
Group 1	24¼	¾
Group 2	14⅞	15⅛
Groups 3 and 4..	14⅝	¾
4½ p.c. 1871 ..	85¾	6¼
5 p.c. Defence	95¼	6¼
5 p.c. Priority ..	82	4
Uruguay Unified ..	72½	3
Virginia Funded ..	43	4
U.S. 4½ p.c.	107½	8½
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Caledonian	105⅞	6⅛
Great Eastern	67⅛	⅜xd
Great Northern	118½	19⅛
Ditto A	102	3
Great Western	144⅛	⅜xd
Hull and Barnsley	29¼	30
Lanc. and York ..	113	19

Brighton(Ordinary)	140	2
Do. A	123⅛	⅝
Chatham(Ordinary)	22⅛	⅝
Do. Preference..	100½	1½xd
North Western	170⅛	⅜
South Western	136	7 xd
Manchester & Shef.	68	70
Do. A.	35¼	¾
Met. Consolidated	72½	3 xd
Do. Land Stock	70½	1½xd
Do. District	33¼	¾
Midland	132½	¾
North British	114½	¾
North Eastern	157¾	8
North Stafford	112	14
South Eastern	132	4
Do. Deferred	105⅛	⅜
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	58¾	9
Cen. Pacific Shares	35½	6
Chic. Mil. and St. P	73¼	½
Denver & R. Grande	19¼	¾
Do. Pref.	52¼	¾
Illinois Shares	122½	3½xd
Lake Shore	98	½
Ohio & Mississippi	23¼	¾
Louis. and Nash ..	60	½xd
Mex. Cen. Bonds	69¼	½
Do. Nat "A" ..	66¼	¾
Miss. Kan. & Texas	14¼	¾
N. Y. Cen. Shares	109¾	10¼
New York Ontario	16⅛	¾
Erie Shares	28¼	½
Do. Sec. Mort.	100½	1½
Norfolk & West. Pre	51	½
N.Y.P.&O. 1st Mr	38	½
North. Pacific Pref	58¾	¼
Pennsylvania Sh..	55⅛	⅜
Phil. and Read. Sh	25¾	6 xd
Union Pacific Shares	61⅛	½
Wabash Preferred	27⅛	⅜
Do. Gen. Mort.	44¾	5¼
Grand Trunk Sh..	9¾	10¼
Do. First Pref..	57⅛	⅝
Do. Second Pref.	40	½
Do. Third Pref..	22⅜	⅝
Do. Guaranteed	65½	6
Mexican Ordinary	46¼	½
Do First Pref	119½	20
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	78¼	9¼
Lombardo-Venetian	8⅛	¼
Varna 3 per cent ..	6½	7
Nitrate Railway ..	25	½
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	13¼	¾
City Bank	20	1
Consolidated Bank	7¼	8¼
Imperial Ottoman	10¼	¾

London and County	84⅛	5½xd
Union of London..	38½	9½
London and West.	66	7
London Joint Stock	38½	9½
Nat. Prov. of Eng	43	4
Stand. Bnk. S. Afric.	47⅛	8⅛
MINES.		
Indian Consolidated	¼	⅜
Mysore shares	3	¼
Ooregums	1⅛	¼
Cape Copper	3¾	4
Namaqua	3	¼
Mason and Barry..	⅜	⅝
Rio Tinto	21⅞	⅞
Montana £1 shares	1⅝	¾
De Beers	26⅛	⅝
Kimberley Cent. ..	30¼	1¼
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES		
Anglo-American ..	40½	1½
Do. Pref.	67½	8½
Direct Unit. States	9⅛	⅜
Eastern	12¼	½
Ditto Extension	12⅞	13⅛
United Telephone	13⅛	⅜
Globe Teleg. Trust	6⅛	⅜xd
TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
London Gen. Om.	203	8
London Street	12	14
London Tramway	14	15
North Metropolitan	18	½
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	253	8
East London	197	202
Grand Junction ..	124	8
Kent	269	74
Lambeth	258	63
New River, New..	347	52
S'thwrk. & Vauxhall	161	6
W. Middlesex	264	9
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Gaslight & Coke A	234	5
Imp. Continental..	206	9
South Metropolitan	315	20
BrushElecLt(£4pd)	3	½
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	8⅛	¾
Guinness and Co...	252½	5
Hotchkiss	9	¼
Bryant and May ..	12⅛	⅞
Spratt's Patent	9¼	10
P. and O. Steam ..	62	4
Royal Mail Steam	59	61
Nat. Discount Co.	11	½
Hudson's Bay	19¼	½
Suez Canal	86½	7
E. & W. Ind. Dock	25	8
London and St. Katharine	40	41

FACE TO FACE WITH A SERIOUS EPIDEMIC.

THE "LANCET" ON THE EAST END FLOODS.

An article in the next issue of the *Lancet* on the recent floods in the Isle of Dogs says that the floods in the Poplar district have endangered the health of the entire neighbourhood. Under the boards in the basement of the houses the filth left by the subsiding waters gives off the most powerful odours and is considered as little better than sewage. It will be no easy matter to render such houses healthy again. Disinfectants are distributed, but this in itself will not suffice. It may only help to conceal the danger. Cannot the unemployed be set to work to scour out these houses, scrape the deposit off the surface of the walls, lift up the floor boards and clean out thoroughly whatever may be underneath, thus making all dry and wholesome again? The public authorities are face to face with the prospect of a serious epidemic, which will involve much suffering and considerable outlay. It would be more economical, and above all more humane, to prevent such an epidemic by taking immediate and energetic measures. This might have the further advantage of finding work for some who are actually suffering from want, and by giving them means of earning their daily bread contribute in another way to the maintenance of public health. We should, therefore, recommend the local authorities to at once organize bodies of men to clean all the houses, leaving the possibility of recovering some of the outlay from the house-owners to be decided after the present pressing danger has been removed. Even if in this the authorities fail and are compelled to bear the whole expense, it will be, we maintain, cheaper than an epidemic.

THE SUICIDE OF DR. RIDLEY.

At the resumed inquest on Dr. Ridley yesterday Mr. Andrews, late deputy-governor of Tullamore gaol, stated that on several occasions he saw Doctors Moorhead and Ridley meet in the building and they never exchanged salutations. Dr. Moorhead on one occasion was testing the temperature of the punishment cell, with the door open. As the door opened upon an outside yard, and as the day was the 21st of December, this, of course, made an appreciable difference in the temperature of the cell. Mr. Andrews, cross-examined by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, said with regard to Dr. Barr being entered on the gaol-book as unknown, it was the duty of the officer to enter every one's name in the book, unless he got special orders from the governor to the contrary. To a juror: I was promoted since I was at Tullamore gaol. Dr. Ronayne, further cross-examined by Mr. Morphy, tried the patience of the court by constantly contradicting himself as to which portions of the report on Mr. William O'Brien's state of health were written in Youghal previous to his visit to Tullamore. He could not recollect where he wrote some, but admitted that the greater part was written at home. The inquiry was again adjourned.

SIR THEODORE MARTIN ON HOME RULE.

Presiding over a Primrose League demonstration at Llangollen, last night, Sir Theodore Martin, K.C.B., said the people would be recreant to the traditions of the country if they countenanced any measure likely to endanger the union of the three kingdoms. England would indeed be tottering to her fall were she to place the control of Ireland in the hands of men who made no secret—nay, who boasted—of their settled hatred to English rule, and of the joy they would feel to see this country lose her pre-eminent place among the nations. The conduct of the Home Rule party had drawn closer and closer the ranks of all who set the integrity of the Empire above all other considerations. They might be thankful that they had a Government that would not dabble in Kilmainham treaties, nor parley with traitors, but would enforce the law with a firm hand against all who either broke it themselves or instigated others to break it.

WHY LORD ABERDEEN SOLD HIS PROPERTY.

Lord Aberdeen, speaking yesterday at a cattle show dinner at Tarland, Aberdeenshire, referred to the reasons that induced him to sell his landed property of Cromar. The leading reason, he said, was to remedy the evil of absentee landlordism. He desired also to avoid its purchase by rack renting landlords, and for that purpose had classed it in lots to suit the present occupants. He commended the system of peasant proprietorship as giving a stimulus to personal exertion not otherwise obtainable, and promised when the local governing body was constituted under a system of local government for Scotland to hand over the local market stances.

THE LARGEST HOSPITAL SATURDAY COLLECTION.

It is now ascertained that the last street collection was the largest in the history of this fund, amounting to £5,000, or £500 more than the similar collection in 1887. By the workshop collection, the proceeds of which are due and payable on and after Saturday, September 1 next, it is hoped to realize £10,000. Thirty thousand collecting sheets and a large number of collecting boxes have been supplied to multifarious business establishments in the metropolis, and special sheets have been issued to the various postal departments, the Royal Arsenal, and to schools, workmen's clubs, friendly societies, and vestries and district boards officials. Every facility has been afforded by the London railway and dock companies for the purposes of the collection.

A SPORTSMAN'S PARADISE.

Sportsmen will be interested in the following statistics published yesterday by the Austrian Minister of Agriculture. They show that Austria is still the finest sporting country in Europe. The number of preserves in Austria alone, not counting those in Hungary, is stated at 15,764, and on these there were shot in 1887 32 bears, 113 wolves, 24 lynxes, 9,490 stags, 60,252 roebucks, 7,709 chamois, 2,998 wild boars, 26,411 foxes, 5,729 polecats, 1,055 otters, 2,672 badgers, 333 marmots, and no fewer than 1,439,134 hares. Wild rabbits are scarce in this country, and are not counted in the general record, but 27,797 were shot in Bohemia, where there are most warrens. The totals for feathered game are—4,498 grouse, 1,300 wild geese, 102,748 pheasants, 1,336,934 partridges, 34,448 quails, 12,652 woodcock, 7,614 snipe, and 28,914 wild ducks. The birds of prey shot were 561 eagles, 38,610 owls, 1,365 horned owls, and 106,353 hawks, kestrels, kites, and vultures.

A THOUSAND IRONWORKERS ON STRIKE.

About a thousand ironworkers employed in various shipbuilding yards at Aberdeen struck work yesterday in consequence of the refusal of the masters to grant them an advance of wages to the extent of 10 per cent. A compromise was offered—the employers suggesting to meet the men's claims by an advance of 5 per cent. This, however, was refused. The iron trade in Aberdeen is fairly brisk just now.

SHAM FIGHT AT ALDERSHOT.

A sham fight, on a larger scale than any that have hitherto been carried out in the Aldershot summer manœuvres of this year, took place at Hankley yesterday, when the force representing the National army inflicted a crushing defeat on the invaders. Upwards of 6,000 regulars and 4,000 volunteers were engaged in the operations, the total strength representing two regiments of cavalry, five batteries of artillery, and fifteen battalions of infantry. The invading force lined the Kettlebury Hills, where, attacked in front and flank, their commander was hopelessly defeated, and himself and army entirely at the mercy of the defenders. Such was the condition of things when Major-General Williams, umpire-in-chief of the day, ordered the "Cease-fire" to be sounded, bringing the fight to a close just before 2 P.M. The volunteers came out of the severe day's work with flying colours, standing the test they were put to in a most satisfactory way. They were under arms from 7 A.M. until 6 P.M., and marched at the least a distance of twenty-five miles.

A LONDON SCHOOL TEACHER KILLED IN THE STATES.

At Trenton, New Jersey, U.S., on the 4th inst, a young Englishman named Edward Cobden was found dead on the railroad. The railroad men say they believe he fell from a freight train upon which he was stealing a ride, and that the wheels crushed him. His personal effects at the Morgue show that he was a school teacher in England up to a recent date, and that he was in this country looking for employment. Letters were found upon his body from his mother and sweetheart, as well as two from himself to them, which he had not mailed, and they disclose the fact that his relatives are poor but highly respectable people. There were several letters from clergymen and schoolmasters, testifying to his good character and his efficiency as a teacher. He had been assistant master in one of the large London schools, but had little or no money while in the States, and was living from hand to mouth in New York and other towns.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE.

The World's Conference of the Young Men's Christian Association was resumed in Stockholm yesterday. Count Bernstorff, of Berlin, was chairman, and Mr. George Williams was vice-president. Six hundred delegates have arrived, and there was a large attendance of the public. The delegates include Professor Gladstone, and Messrs. Hind Smith, Kennedy, Mills, Burn, Pearse, Lawrence, Wilson, Waldegrave, Hodder, Chubb, and Farwell, of London; Bennett, Anderson, and Jameson, of Liverpool; Thorne, Moor, and M'Cann, travelling secretaries; and Henderson, Smith, Oatts, and Auld, from Scotland. The chief paper was one by Mr. J. Herbert Tritton, of London, which was read by Mr. Kennedy, and was heartily received. Another paper was read by Mr. Auld, of Greenock. Count Cronstedt, Court Chamberlain, is issuing invitations from the King and Queen to the delegates to lunch at Drottningholm Castle next Monday.

THE BIRMINGHAM LIBERAL CLUB COMPANY.

The liquidator of the Liberal Club Building Company has issued his statement of account, which shows that in round numbers the sale of the club realized £23,000, of which £19,000 is due to the bank. The balance will permit the payment to the shareholders of £50,000 worth of stock of a dividend of 1*s.* 6*d.* in the pound.

A DISAPPOINTED LOVER'S FATAL LEAP.

At Lewes yesterday an inquest was held on the body of Isabella Victoria Henwood, daughter of a Lewes tradesman. She had been keeping company with a young man, but her parents objected, and insisted that further communication between the two should cease. On Wednesday afternoon she wrote a letter to her lover, and, having posted it, made her way to the top of one of the large chalk pits on the outskirts of Lewes, from one of the highest points of which she threw herself over, in the presence of a number of persons who were passing in the road below. She fell from a height of over one hundred feet. The facts having been given in evidence, the jury returned a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane.

POISONED BY SEWER GAS.

A sewer accident has occurred in Liverpool to a number of corporation workmen. They were engaged in a sewer in Kensington-street when they were overcome by sewer gas, and became unconscious. Two of their fellow-workmen went down to their rescue, and these men also became overpowered, and were only rescued with the utmost difficulty. One of the men is dead, and the others are not expected to recover.

THE AFFAIRS OF MR. JAMES DAVIS.

At the London Court of Bankruptcy yesterday the first meeting of creditors was held in the case of James Davis, the late proprietor of the *Bat* newspaper, and who is now out of England. It was stated that the bankrupt denied altogether that he had left the country in order to defeat and delay his creditors. Mr. Sydney said he was satisfied that his absence from England was due to his desire not to be arrested upon any other process. Mr. Hasluck, accountant, was appointed the trustee.

THE HAMPTON WICK ACCIDENT.—It is stated that David Alexander, the fireman of the light engine that ran into a passenger train at Hampton Wick on the night of Bank Holiday, and who was examined at considerable length by Major Marindin at the Board of Trade inquiry, is now confined to his bed, owing to the internal injuries he received. Daniel Pickles, the driver, whose head was injured by being knocked through the look-out glass, is progressing favourably, but his medical attendant will not allow him to go out.

SUICIDE FROM AN ATLANTIC LINER.—On the arrival of the American liner *Lord Clive* at Queenstown from Liverpool, yesterday evening, it was reported that at nine o'clock the previous night, whilst the vessel was steaming at full speed east of Linas Head, Anglesey, Thomas Barry, steward of the ship, suddenly climbed up the main rigging, and deliberately jumped overboard. Flare lights were immediately kindled and a life-buoy thrown overboard, the steamer's engines being reversed at full speed. A boat was also lowered, but the man was not found.

WINE AT SACRAMENT.—At the third day's sitting of the New Church Conference at Accrington yesterday an animated debate, lasting eight hours, took place on the question of using fermented or unfermented wine at sacrament. Ultimately a resolution was carried expressing no opinion on the wine question, but providing for two communion services during conference week for both sections. A purse of gold was presented to the Rev. R. Storry, conference president and senior minister in the denomination, in commemoration of his golden wedding and his jubilee as a minister.

MARRIAGE REFORM IN INDIA.

By PANDIT SIVANATH SASTRI, M.A.

PUBLIC attention has been lately called in this country to an interesting reformatory movement set on foot by the Rajput Princes of India. Though the fact of a number of noble houses taking the lead in the present instance invests it, no doubt, with a degree of new importance, yet it is by no means the first step in that direction.

Quite as early as twenty-five years back, if not earlier, a rather remarkable man, called Munshi Pearylal, stirred up the whole province of Behar with an agitation for the reduction of the customary expenses of marriage. The circumstances that decided his choice of the life of a reformer were also remarkable. When conducting his inquiries, as a subordinate officer of police, in connection with a case, he came to know certain facts similar to the female infanticide of the Rajput tribes, which shocked and horrified him to such an extent that, throwing off his secular employment, he consecrated his life to the arduous duties of a reformer, travelling from district to district, and trying to bind all classes of his fellow-Beharis by a covenant not to exceed certain limits in the matter of marriage expenses. For a time the talk was in everybody's mouth, and his scheme promised to meet with uninterrupted success. He succeeded in influencing many of the rich and aristocratic families of Behar to join his movement. Great caste meetings were held in important centres, and the voice of public opinion seemed to be unanimous that the evil complained of was a crying one, and needed speedy correction. But what led to the gradual collapse of this movement I am not able to report. As years rolled on, Munshi Pearylal, as well as his movement, were less and less heard of, till at last they seem to have dropped out of sight altogether.

But the cry raised by this reformer did not die. It was reverberated from the plains of Bengal, where a very large number of meetings have ever since been held, by different sections of the Hindu community, to reduce the expenses of their marriages. Under the subtle operation of the rules of caste, the marriage of a daughter, in almost every section of the community, is daily becoming more and more expensive. This expensiveness of a Hindu daughter's marriage requires a word of explanation; for it is so unlike the custom prevailing in these Western countries. The English reader requires to be told that a Hindu father looks upon the settlement of his daughter in marriage as one of the most sacred duties of his life. He cannot die in peace if this part of his duties remains unfulfilled. Then both custom and religious sanction forbid him to keep his daughter unmarried till she arrives at her puberty. Nothing could be more humiliating in the eyes of his fellow-castemen than such a contingency. Accordingly, long before the period arrives, he is on the look out for a suitable bridegroom for his daughter. But the rules of caste do not permit him to make an indiscriminate choice from amongst the members of other castes. He is fettered—first, with regard to the marriageable age of his daughter; secondly, with regard to an eligible consort. The consequence is that there is, generally speaking, a sharp competition, among all the fathers of marriageable girls of one caste, for securing the best available bridegrooms of that caste. And as the children who are to be sacrificed at the altar of Hymen are neutral in this matter, the question is left to the operation of the natural law of demand and supply. The negotiations are carried on by the heads of the two families, and they often assume the character of pecuniary speculations. Exorbitant demands in the shape of a large dowry to the daughter, and wedding presents to the new son-in-law, are often made by the father of the bridegroom, to which the bride's father has to consent, as the only alternative left to him under the circumstances. Added to this ever-present cause of the expensiveness of a daughter's marriage, there is the Hindu custom of treating the marriage of a son or a daughter as one of those great public occasions when the full wealth and prestige and power of a family can be best manifested, and a higher position secured for it in the social scale. It is thus that many families, springing from insignificant origin, rise to social influence in the community. Cases are very frequent where the savings of many years are hoarded up to make an effective display on such an occasion. This foolish vanity is almost universal. Among the aristocratic families of Calcutta there are the records of several who brought themselves to bankruptcy by squandering their colossal fortunes on a son's or daughter's marriage, or on the after-death ceremony in honour of some dead relative. Raja Nabakissen, the Indian assistant of Lord Clive, and the founder of one of our aristocratic families, for instance, is said to have spent the fabulous sum of 9 lakhs of rupees, or £900,000, in feeding beggars and Brahmins in honour of his dead mother. So much for the general expensiveness of Hindu marriages.

But the efforts of Indian reformers have not been confined to the question of the expensiveness of Hindu marriages alone. The question of child marriage has also engaged their earnest attention for a series of years. The first public action in this direction was taken in the year 1870 by the Indian Reform Association, under the guidance of the late Mr. Keshub Chunder Sen, who addressed a circular letter to the leading medical men of the country asking for their opinions on the proper marriageable age of Indian girls. The collection and publication of those opinions gave a fresh impetus to the agitation, which resulted in the passing of the Act III. of 1872, which laid down the minimum marriageable age of girls to be fourteen and that of boys to be eighteen, the exact limits fixed upon by these Rajput Princes. Act III. of 1872, though primarily passed at the instance of the Brahmos of India, yet provides a civil form of marriage for all such as object to be married according to the rites of any of the prevalent religions of the country. I may incidentally mention some of the good results that have flowed out of this liberal measure. It has accelerated the progress of all reformed notions of marriage. It has made polygamy penal for persons married under the Act, has promoted inter-marriage between different castes, and has most effectively accelerated the abolition of child marriage in the country. Not only those who prayed for the measure, and have supported it ever since, but also many others who were bitterly opposed to it, have done away with child marriage in their families. Its healthful influence is observed in the fact that the low limits of marriageable age set down in the law—namely, fourteen in the case of girls, and eighteen in the case of boys—are coming to be felt as too low by many Brahmo parents, and the limits are being voluntarily exceeded in the case of their daughters.

Nor did the efforts of our reformers cease here. Quite as late as the year 1884, Mr. Malabari, the enterprising editor of the *Indian Spectator*, of Bombay, addressed two remarkable Notes—one on "Infant Marriage," and the other on "Enforced Widowhood"—to the Indian Government. They were sent to the provincial governments, and through them to almost all the leading Indian gentlemen of the country for consideration. The expression of opinion evoked by these two Notes, was almost unanimous on the subject of child marriage. Almost all of them agreed in denouncing it as a great social evil. Mr. Malabari collected and published these opinions, and himself visited different parts of Northern India (probably including Rajputana), delivering lectures and organizing anti-child-marriage Committees.

The controversy then raised can hardly be said to have subsided. Only last year it was stirred up afresh in Bengal by the reading of a somewhat reactionary paper before the Christian Missionary Conference by Mr. Jaygovinda Shome, an Indian member of that Conference. This unexpected defence of Hindu child marriage by a Christian writer led to the sudden explosion of an amount of reactionary sentiment, which was promptly met by the reformers, and the whole question was rediscussed with renewed zeal from both sides on various platforms.

Thus it will be seen that the action of the Rajput Princes is but the latest expression of a prevailing sentiment which has been gathering force and intensity with the progress of education. But that fact does not detract in the least from the significance of the present movement. The high position and vast social influence of its princely promoters have added to it a degree of importance which cannot but be productive of the most beneficial results among the Rajput tribes. But something needs to be told of the habits and usages of these tribes, before the English reader can be expected to form a right conception of the significance of the present movement. From a time long anterior to the establishment of the Mahommedan rule, these Rajputs of India divided themselves into a number of tribes, thirty-six of which have been mentioned by Colonel Tod in his "History of Rajasthan." A system of internal government very similar in many respects to the old feudal system of Europe obtained among them. Each ranged under its recognized chief, and carried on incessant feuds with rival tribes. From the days of the abduction of the fair Sanjucta by Prithiraj, the last Hindu Emperor of Delhi, and the great civil war that arose out of it, down to the most recent times, feudal or clan jealousies have subsisted among them. These clan jealousies at one time produced among them a wholesome rivalry for military glory, for heroism and self-sacrifice, which have shed undying lustre on their annals, and have justly earned for them the glorious distinction of being called "the Spartans of India;" but they also produced a most unwholesome competition in displaying their pomp and power. A class of national minstrels, called *charans*, who kept the genealogy of these princely houses, and sang their glorious exploits in adulatory verses, helped in keeping up these tribal jealousies and in feeding this vanity. From this tribal feeling arose the custom of making an unusual display on the occasion of a marriage, as one of the means of outbidding a rival tribe. Of course, a large portion of these expenses were shared by the *charans*, *bhats*, and other hangers on of a Court. The bad example of the chiefs was soon followed by the people; till within the course of a few centuries the whole thing became so oppressive that the inhuman practice of putting to death female infants became general among almost all the Rajput tribes scattered over the country. It was discovered as early as the close of the last century by Jonathan Duncan, an agent of the East India Company, among the Rajputs of Oude, and subsequently among those of Kathiawár, Kuch, and Guzerat. Since that time it has required constant watchfulness and a vigorous application of the law on the part of the British Government to put a stop to the cruel custom. How vastly must things have already changed under the solvent influence of the British rule, that this proud race of warriors—the most bigoted and conservative of all Indian races—thinks it necessary at last to open its doors for new ideas! The advance from infanticide to the abolition of child marriage is not merely an advance, but a great leap. It is a striking signal for onward march to the Indian reformers. Though the limits of marriageable age laid down by these Princes are quite too low, according to European ideas, yet, looking to the prevailing custom of the country, they are quite worthy of admiration as the first milestones in the path of marriage reform. As such we hail them, and wish all God-speed to the movement. Anything that tends to lift the load from the lot of India's degraded womanhood should also at once command the sympathy of every true-hearted English man and English woman.

THE BATTLE OF THE BOTTLES IN FRANCE.

THE last number of the *Revue Scientifique* contains an interesting article by M. E. Ratoin, in which, under the heading of "One Aspect of the Wine Question," an account is given of the wines of the different vine-growing countries and their influence on the wine trade in France. Until quite recently French vine-growers believed that they could never have to encounter any commercial competition for their clarets and champagnes, and that their old reputation and the quality of their wines would always ensure a good market and exceptional prices. The time, however, has come when their hopes have been destroyed by that large part of the public which, without being wealthy enough to pay a very high price, will yet not do without their daily bottle of wine.

The three enemies which threaten the French vine-grower are the excessive increase of duty on wines; the frauds and the innumerable imitations of French labels; and the competition of the small vine-growers abroad. Russia, Servia, Greece, Austria, and Germany are all countries in which vine-growing is becoming an important agricultural industry, and quite recently Australia has joined the enemy by manufacturing wines which, though they are more alcoholic and intoxicating, are not unlike the French growths known as Côte d'Or and Médoc. In pointing to the growths of the different countries, and their distinguishing qualities, the writer gives Hungary the first place, after France, among vine-growing countries as producing the greatest variety of growths. Of these the growth known as Tokay is the first and foremost, and it is celebrated all over the world. According to the Hungarian proverb its colour as well as its price is gold. It is grown only in a district of four villages; and the most celebrated among the different Tokays are those known as St. Thérèse, Szarwach, and Mezer-Male.

Less expensive, but equally well known, are the growths known as Lugosch, Ruszt, Bösing, and Neszmelyer; while the Hungarian claret known as Carlovitz has become a favourite tonic in this country. Concerning it we are told, "Carlovitz is a sweet, red wine, very light, and 'd'une grande finesse.'" The degree of perfection which vine-growing has attained in Hungary in the course of the last few years is chiefly due to the powerful aid given by the Government to every effort for the amelioration of the industry. Special experts have been appointed to inspect and inquire into matters connected with vine-growing; and in 1881 a vault was opened at Budapest where wines may be sent direct by the proprietors, the administration analyzing the contents of each vat, and accepting only those wines which are absolutely pure. The great enemy which is threatening Hungarian vines is the phylloxera, which threatens to cause the ruin of many of the small vine-growers.

After Hungary, Rhenish Prussia is the most important competitor of France in vine-growing. The growths may be divided into the wines grown on the right bank of the Rhine, those on the left bank, and those known as Moselle. Of the latter the following are the best-known: Brauneberg, Thiergarten, Neuberg, Josephöfe, Ohligsberg, Winningen, Scharzberg, Erdau, Bernkastel, Wintrich, Graach, Wehlen, and Pisporter. Most of these wines go to Belgium, where, for their lightness and pleasant taste, they are much appreciated. The wines grown in the Ahr valley, between Bonn and Coblenz, are the most celebrated of the growths on the left bank of the Rhine. They are white, dry, aromatic, and spirituous; but they do not lose their rough flavour till they have been kept in a vault for at least seven years. If the harvest is good, the Ahr valley produces some 3,000,000 bottles of wine. One of the best known wines of the left bank of the Rhine is the Liebfraumilch, grown near Worms, and the far-famed Rüdesheimer, first imported from Bourgogne by Charlemagne. All the growths on the left bank have less body than those grown on the right bank, but are of a better quality and have a richer flavour; the best wines on the right bank are obtained in the district between Mayence and Coblenz. Among these are the wines grown at Hochheim, Eltville, Wallrath, and Johannisberg. All others are stronger than the growths of the left bank, and aromatic, but rather dry, and require a long time before they obtain all their good qualities.

The fact that the Rhenish wine-merchants have of late years become great competitors to the large French champagne firms is regarded as a very serious danger to French vine-growers. German champagnes being of an inferior kind, the Rhenish merchants, in order to popularize their brands, buy whole harvests in the Rheims or Epernay district, store them away in German vaults, and have them bottled and marked with their brands. By this process of the Germanization of champagne, enormous numbers of hands, employed in cork, bottle, and label making, and in many other branches of work in France, lose their work, and the loss to the country is almost inestimable.

Of Russian wines, grown in Asia Minor, the Crimea, the valley of the Don, in Astrakhan and the Caucasus, those grown in the latter district are only suitable for home consumption, and the whole vine culture in Russia has increased to such an extent that, whereas in 1883 France imported 44,384 vedros of champagne into Russia, only 28,403 vedros were imported in 1886.

After giving a short account of vine-growing in Spain and Portugal, and in California, M. Ratoin concludes by saying: "Thus everywhere, in Europe and in America, duties, imitation, and local production make a terrible war on our wines. . . . How shall we battle against these? By increased duties on imports? By putting a higher duty on English coal and iron? We cannot undertake to indicate the measures which ought to be taken. It is our business only to throw light on a situation to which people do not pay sufficient attention. There are changes which no one can alter: but there are some which are partly brought about by ourselves, for commercial conventions are not always made with desirable care and prudence. Some have been voted by Parliament with culpable superficiality. One of these is the commercial treaty with Mexico, which is a veritable fool's treaty. We seem to forget the economic truth which the members of the Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce pointed out lately to the Minister of Foreign Affairs—"The commercial politics are a nation's strength if wisely directed, but they bring about its ruin when they cause all its resources to decrease."

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at 8.15,
Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD as
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.

MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.
Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING at 9. Messrs. W. Blakeley, H. Standing, A. Maltby, A. Boucicault, and Geo. Giddens; Mesdames Rose Saker, F. Robertson, E. Terriss, F. Moore, E. Penrose, and Lottie Venne. Preceded by, at 8.15, THE DOWAGER. Doors open 7.45. N.B.—Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, H. Halley, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Helen Forsyth, O. Nethersole, D. Drummond, E. Bufton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE REFUGEES. Mr. D. Somers, Miss Agnes Miller, &c.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. Last Night for the present. 153rd Time. Great success. TO-NIGHT at 8.30, a New Comedy in Five Acts, by ROBERT BUCHANAN, entitled JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. Preceded, at 7.45, by a new One Act Play, entitled THE BROTHERS, by H. BYATT. Messrs. W. Rignold, C. Maude, J. S. Blythe, S. Buist, F. Gillmore, F. Grove, J. Wheatman, and Fred Thorne; Mesdames G. Homfrey, Arnold, McNeill, Harrison, Maunders, and Kate Rorke. Box-office open 10 till 6.30.

GAIETY THEATRE.

Miss SOPHIE EYRE.

EVERY EVENING at 8.45, Great Success as MARINA, supported by Misses Carlotta Leclercq, Enid Leslie, Lucy Buckstone; Messrs. E. D. Ward, Herbert Waring, Julian Cross, Fred. Terry, H. Maxwell, James East, Glenn Wynn, &c. Preceded at 8 by POLLY'S VENTURE. Mrs. Smale &c. Box-office open 10 till 6 daily. "SHE" is in active preparation. Manager, Mr. John Cobbe.

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(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

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THIS EVENING, at 8.45, BOOTLES' BABY. 89th Time. Messrs. Charles Sugden, Edmund Maurice, C. W. Garthorne, Forbes Dawson, Gilbert Farquhar, C. Kent, and Charles Collette; Mesdames Webster, Henrietta Lindley, Rose Evelyn, Maud Merrill, Minnie Terry. At 7.15, TRUE COLOURS. Messrs. Forbes Dawson, A. J. Byde; Mesdames Giffard and Florence Grant.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.35, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.
At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (693rd Performance.)
Mesdames Effie Chapuy, Florence Perry, Harriet Coveney, E. Weston, and Amy Augarde;
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SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.

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THE RACE TO THE SOUTH.

In consequence of the example of greater speed set by the railways running north, all the lines south of the Thames have felt stimulated to extra exertions, the result of which will, we believe, be the issue of the following important official announcements in the course of a few days:—

The S.E.R. Co. has made up its mind, though with much reluctance, to further accelerate the trains between London Bridge and Cannon-street. The distance (about three hundred yards) will in future be done at the break-neck pace of five miles an hour, so that the quarter of an hour now occupied by the journey will be somewhat reduced. This arrangement, however, is one so contrary to all the traditions of this company that it can only be allowed to remain in force for one month. After that travellers will enjoy the same facilities for the quiet inspection of the backs of hop warehouses as are now gratuitously accorded them.

The L. C. and D. Railway Co. have arranged that the usual stoppage of the Dover expresses for fifteen minutes at Herne-hill to enable the engine-driver to shunt his car-load of coals and vegetables for domestic use into a siding shall be discontinued.

The South London Tramway Co. have determined to place all competition of the S.E.R. trains between Greenwich, or New-cross, and London out of the question, by giving each of their horses an extra half-feed of corn once a week.

The L.B. and S.C.R. do not feel justified in breaking through their settled policy of detaining all trains for ten minutes in some dirty sheds between Grosvenor-road and Victoria stations; but arrangements have been made for a service of grimy Italian boys with portable hurdy-gurdies to accompany the trains between these two points, so as to provide the more impatient of the passengers with the soothing influences of high-class music.

The South Western Co. believe that the speed and unvarying punctuality of its trains are so well known that no alterations for the better are possible. In order, however, to give persons who may have to wait at Waterloo station for trains arriving from the country the exercise which is so conducive to health, they have decided that trains shall *never* (instead of, as now, hardly ever) be brought in to the same platform for two days running, thus ensuring constant feverish rushes from one platform to another half a mile distant on the part of the person waiting. The "three-tip system" of conveying luggage from Waterloo to Waterloo Junction (S.E.R.) has given so much satisfaction—to the porters—that it will remain in force.

Some special locomotives with large driving wheels are being manufactured for the South Eastern Company, after which the directors confidently anticipate that they will be enabled to compete with the vehicles of the Funeral Furnishing Company, and even possibly with those of the General Omnibus Company, in the race from Cannon-street to Charing-cross with greater prospects of success.

H. F. L.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE BIBLE.

The following "metrical forecast," published in the *Pioneer* will be read with interest in connection with the agitation for religious instruction minus the Bible.

. . . "An attempt should be made to prepare a moral text-book based upon the fundamental principles of natural religion, such as may be taught in all Government and non-Government colleges."—*Vide* Resolution on this subject in this week's *G—tt of I—a.*

SCENE—*A Palace in Cloudland. Moral Text-Book Committee discovered at a round-table singing:*

Moralists we,
From over the sea,
From the land where philosophers plenty be.
From the land that produced no Kants with a K,
But many Cants with a C.
By the wisdom of Comte
We have learned to devise
Our own little roofs, and
Dispense with the skies.
The Gods and the Godlings
On dust-laden shelves
Repose for a sign:
We are all Gods ourselves!

(*Confidentiallissimo.*)
And so we come here
With gum-pot and shear—
Devoid of convictions but blessed with long faces—
From every land's vext Book
To clip out a text-book
Which gives a religion on "natural bases."

PRESIDENT (*solo, tremolo*).
In the name of the Great God Fudge,
I charge ye take good heed
To weigh and sift and sniff and judge
The merits of every creed:
That no man may your wage begrudge
That your fame may be great indeed
Who have gotten a God at the Government's nod
In the land where the Deities breed.

(*The Committee fall to their labours.*)

PRESIDENT (*patter song with piccolo accomp.*)
Take a little Rabelais—just a garlic-hint.
Out of Locke and Bacon steal something fit to print.
Grind 'em down with Butler, and morsels of Voltaire,
Don't forget the "Precious Fools" sketched by Molière,

Robert Elsmere, Mallock, Hume, Gibbon (on his knees),
Take the Ten Commandments out if they fail to please—
Substitute the Penal Code—sections underlined:
There you have a prefect book to form the infant mind!

(*Encore verses may be introduced here according to the taste of the singer or the educational policy of the Government of India.*)

COMMITTEE (*scattering text-books abroad*):—

It's bound in cloth and it's one rupee,
And a very good thing you'll find it.
It may almost pass for—what you please,
If nobody gets behind it.

(*Grand general walk-round of Committee. Bundles of M. T. B. under their arms; hats over one eye.*)

We don't know anything about it at all,
But here's the book you see:
So we'll supply the school, and cry:
"Are ye there Mor-al-i-tee?"
[*Kick-dance in order of seniority.*

We don't care anything about it at all,
For devil a faith have we;
But we'll all look sly and gaily cry:
"Are ye there, Mor-al-i-tee?"

BOUQUETS, BLUE-FIRE, GENERAL REFORMATION, AND *CURTAIN.*

SIAMESE STUDENTS IN ENGLAND.

A correspondent writes:—Your Note under this heading scarcely does justice to the Siamese students or to the Siamese Government. There were Siamese students in England long before Mr. Brown had any connection with them; and a number of them are already at work in their own country. It is more than a year now since Nai Pleng—the first Siamese barrister—was called to the bar; and to his credit it may be said that he passed all his examinations before he had kept his twelve terms. He is now in an official position in Bangkok. Another student, Nai Sai, finished his engineering course at King's College a year ago, when he also returned to Siam, where to his great credit, he is now engaged, as an assistant engineer, on the railway survey in the North of Siam. Siamese with an English education may be generally expected to get some office under their own countrymen; but Nai Sai has been engaged by Messrs. Punchard and Co., who have a surveying concession from the Siamese Government.

"THE BEST BOOKS FOR SUNDAY-SCHOOL LIBRARIES."

A correspondent writes:—The extract from the New York *Independent's* list of best books for Sunday-school libraries which you published on Wednesday ought not to be allowed to pass without a word of comment. The writer evidently knows more of literature for grown up people than for boys and girls. Fancy any one objecting to a single line that George Macdonald ever penned on the ground that it might unsettle "the simple Christian faith of the young"! What is the whole purpose and the whole spirit of Dr. Macdonald's beautiful books but emphatic and earnest inculcation of all that is Christian in nature and in life? Mayne Reid's best boys' book for Sunday-school or every-day reading is, surely, "The Boy Hunters"? The one book of Jules Verne's which above all others ought to be in a Sunday-school library is "Dick Sands, the Boy Captain." And what of the late Mr. W. H. G. Kingston and of Mr. R. M. Ballantyne? Every sentence either of them ever penned is suitable for the Sunday-school library. What, again, about Kingsley? The *Independent* writer apparently is as little at home with the best books for Sunday-school libraries as with the effect of reading on the minds of boys and girls. Any one who has studied this subject closely would never dream of putting a work into a girl's hands which her brother ought not to read. And if one fact is established beyond all others, it is that girls are as great devourers of boys' books as boys. They often, indeed, devour both their own and their brothers', and but for girls the sale of boys' books would be appreciably smaller than it is.

THE WEATHER AND THE HARVEST.

The first fortnight of August presents a remarkable contrast to the last fortnight of July, as regards weather in every part of the British Islands, and especially in the South of England. The rain has abated; the sunshine has returned. During the month of July the thermometer never once exceeded the average maximum reading of July in London; but in the first fifteen days of August it has five times exceeded the average maximum of August in London, but on one day the excess was as much as 14 degrees. The rainfall has also come down much below average. Since the 1st of August—on which date the last deluge fell over London—there has been continuous rainy weather nowhere, and only at Wick, in the far north of Scotland, has the measured amount of rain in the first half of August exceeded the average for the season of the year. The sunshine and the cessation of rain combined have done wonders for the British farmer. They have made it unnecessary to make any longer unpleasant references to the resemblance between the weather of this autumn and that of 1860 or 1879. The fields are without doubt looking much better now than they were in either of these disastrous years. There is still a chance that much which was only a fortnight ago thought to be hopelessly ruined may be secured in fair condition. At the best, the grain cannot be up to average in quality this season; it is too late to hope for that. But there is bulk if not quality, and warm and dry weather would enable farmers to secure that in fair condition; and thus save at least much that a little while ago was given up as hopelessly lost. Autumn sunshine would also prevent any undue advance in the price of grain. There has been a pause already in the advance, owing to the return of better weather, and with a continuance of sunshine we should probably hear less than we have done of late as to the deficiencies of the American crop and the advantage to the British farmer of standing out for an advance. A smart rise in grain would benefit the speculator who chances to have bought cheap, but it would not be of much advantage to any one else, not even to the British farmer; for, according to his usual custom, he would directly begin to think of giving a higher rent to get possession of more wheat-raising land. Wheat is at the beginning of harvest dearer than it has been in any year at the same date since 1884; and as the average of rents of grain-producing land has sensibly fallen since 1884, it ought to be easier now to raise wheat at a profit than it was four years ago. But we shall have to be content with five or six bushels less per acre over Great Britain than we received in 1884.

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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—This cooling Ointment, perseveringly rubbed upon the skin, is the most reliable remedy for overcoming all diseases of the throat and chest. Quinsy, relaxed tonsils, sore throat, swollen glands, ordinary catarrh, and bronchitis may be arrested as soon as discovered, and every symptom banished, by Holloway's simple and effective treatment, which allays in an incredibly short time the distressing fever and teasing cough.

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Kills Bugs, Fleas, Moths, Beetles
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EDUCATIONAL.

MEMORY.—LOISETTE'S SYSTEM is original and of great value. This was testified in the Supreme Court of New York, on July 26, by Daniel Greenleaf Thompson (author of "A System of Psychology"—Longmans. 1884), Dr. Wm. A. Hammond (author of several works on mind and nerves), and others; so Mr. G. S. Fellows' books containing Prof. Loisette's Lessons were confiscated. — For prospectus apply Professor A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford-street, London.

MEMORY, by Dr. PICK.—The true method for acquiring knowledge, according to the highest authorities. No devices, no artificial means.—For syllabus address, 28, Queen's-road, N.W. Beware of unscrupulous imitators. Just published, "Memory and its Doctors," 1s.; by post, 1s. 2d.—TRÜBNER and Co.

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SCHORNE COLLEGE, near Winslow, for Sons of Clergy, Army, Navy, &c. Thirty guineas per annum; considerable reduction to brothers and orphans. Entrance fee, five guineas. Vicar is Warden.—Address, Rev. Dr JAMES.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STAMPS! STAMPS!!—Buy, sell, and exchange with Palmer, who agitated Parliament to pass Act to stop forged stamps. Cheapest house; best prices given for collections; opinions given on stamps gratis. 500 stamps, all different, 6d. Bric-à-Brac, 1d. Stamps sent on approval. J. W. PALMER, 281, Strand, London.

TO AUTHORS, JOURNALISTS, &c. An Editor of experience says:—"If "the writers who deluge my table with MSS. would "only spend TWOPENCE PER 100 WORDS "in having their articles copied by a type writer, "what a blessing it would be for me and the "comps., and how much greater chance their "copy would have of being read." TYPE-WRITING DONE at that rate by "TYPEWRITER," 14, Shaftesbury-road, Hammersmith, W. Translations from French and German also undertaken.

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MAGNIFICENT YOUNG ST. BERNARD. Sire cost £750. Also several PUPPIES.—Dunkeld Lodge, St. Albans.

WASHING.—NOTICE of REMOVAL. Mrs. NEWMAN, owing to increase of Business, has taken larger premises, and is enabled to take a few more families' work.—Price lists and references on application.—Auckland House, High-street, Battersea.

WASHING WANTED by well-established good laundress. Has every convenience. Thoroughly understands getting up fine linen. Constant supply of water. Large open drying grounds. Good references. Terms moderate. Covered van in town daily.—Mrs. J. H., Cambridge Laundry, Bollo-bridge-road, Acton.

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GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL.

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As £20,000 only has been subscribed towards the £45,000 required for the New Buildings now in course of erection, further CONTRIBUTIONS are Urgently NEEDED, and will be thankfully received by the Bankers, Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., 1, Pall-mall East, S.W., or by the Secretary, Mr. William T. Grant, at the Hospital, Holloway-road, N.

C. T. MURDOCH, Esq., M.P.,
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CONSUMPTION HOSPITAL, BROMPTON. FUNDS URGENTLY REQUIRED. CHARITY UNENDOWED. 321 Beds. Expenses, £24,000; Fixed Income, under £3,000 a year. H. DOBBIN, Secretary.

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In aid of an unfortunate Widow Lady whose daughter is nearly blind and affected with a chronic peritonitis, desires to rejoin her relations in America, that she may be able to procure the necessaries to support her child.

She came to London in a comfortable position twelve years ago, but owing to the long illness of her daughter and other adversities, has lost all she possessed. Her hopes are placed on the bounty of those who like to do good to furnish her with the means to return to the United States and pay the debts incurred through illness.

Address donations to Doctor J. RUSSELL HARRIS, 13, Surrey-street, Strand, and to Mrs. JOSEPHINE ANDERSON, 25—27, King's-road, Chelsea.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL COLLEGE, MILE END, E.

The SESSION 1888-89 will COMMENCE on MONDAY, October 1, 1888. The new buildings, which were opened by T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, on May 21, 1887, afford more than double the accommodation which was provided formerly.

FOUR ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS, value £60, £40, £30, and £20, will be offered for competition at the end of September to new students. Fees for lectures and hospital practice, 90 guineas in one payment, or 100 guineas in three instalments. All resident and other hospital appointments are free, and the holders of all the resident appointments are provided with rooms and board entirely free of expense. The resident appointments consist of five house physicianeies, five house surgeoncies, one accoucheurship, one receiving-room officer, and one senior dresser to out-patients. Dressers and maternity pupils also reside in the Hospital. Special classes for the preliminary scientific and Intermediate M.B. Examinations of the University of London and for the Primary and Pass Examinations for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England are held throughout the year. Special entries may be made for medical and surgical practice. The London Hospital is now in direct communication by rail and tram with all parts of the metropolis, and the Metropolitan, Metropolitan District, East London, and South Eastern Railways have stations within a minute's walk of the Hospital and College.

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CHRISTIAN KINGDOM SOCIETY, for the Promotion of God's Kingdom of Righteousness, Unselfishness, and Love. ITS ONLY RULE an honest endeavour to be loyal to the Spirit of Christ. Those attracted by it should write to Secretary, 20, St. Bride-street, E.C.

TRAINED MALE NURSES.—The HAMILTON ASSOCIATION for providing Trained Male Nurses, founded in 1885 by voluntary subscriptions and donations. SUPPLIES MALE NURSES for medical, surgical, and mental cases. For particulars address the Medical Superintendent, 69, South Audley-street, London, W.

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The following Steamships, belonging to the ORIENT and PACIFIC COMPANIES, leave LONDON as under, Plymouth one day later, Naples nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY direct with her Majesty's mails, taking passengers for all ports in AUSTRALASIA:—

	Tons	H.P.	
AUSTRAL	5,588	7,000	Aug. 31
IBERIA	4,702	4,200	Sept. 14
ORMUZ	6,116	8,500	Sept. 28
CUZCO	3,918	4,000	Oct. 12
ORIENT	5,386	6,000	Oct. 26
LUSITANIA	3,825	4,000	Nov. 9
OROYA	6,181	7,000	Nov. 23

Loading berth, Tilbury Docks.
Cheap Single and Return Tickets.

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1st class, £10; 2nd class, £5 5s.; 3rd class, £3 16s.—Apply to ALLAN BROTHERS and Co., 103, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

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N.B.—This route offers unrivalled facilities for visiting the GLASGOW INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION. EXPRESS TRAINS run every hour between EDINBURGH and GLASGOW.

Cheap Circular Tours round the Land's End and by Bristol Channel, in connection with the Clyde Shipping Company and Messrs Sloan and Co.'s Steamers.

THE

Pall Mall Budget

Of THURSDAY, August 16,

CONTAINS

THE RAILWAY RACE TO EDINBURGH. (ILLUSTRATED.)

THE RED GROUSE. (ILLUSTRATED.)

THE RAILWAY KING ON THE KING OF TRAINS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

THE STRIKES IN PARIS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

TO MEET EDISON. (ILLUSTRATED.)

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TWO FAMOUS MURDERS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

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TWO WELSH MOUNTAINS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

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Off for the Scotch Shootings.
The Triumphs of the Session.

Feuilleton:

DR. PALLISER'S PATIENT. By Grant Allen. (ILLUSTRATED.)

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THE PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON (LIMITED), 39, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

EXTRACTS from REPORT on the FINANCIAL POSITION of the ASSOCIATION by Messrs. WHINNEY, HURLBATT, and SMITH, Chartered Accountants, and Mr. RALPH PRICE HARDY, Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries.

Mr. R. P. HARDY, F.I.A., under date August 8, reports as follows:—

I certify that, as the result of my investigation and valuation, and in my opinion and judgment, the sum of £71,956 fairly and properly represents the "accrued liability" of the Association under its several bond or certificate engagements; that, with such sum invested in sound securities, together with the future contributions (not less than four per cent. interest being realized), the Association will be able—

1. To discharge all the existing Bonds, or Certificates, as they mature.
2. To defray the expenses of and incident to the management, as attributable to the collection of the renewal income and to the superintendence of the investments (in all not exceeding 17½ per cent. of the contributions received).
3. To meet the surrender values and repayments on the contributors' deaths; and
4. To provide a fund out of which drawings may be periodically made.

All excess of interest realized over the valuation rate of 4 per cent., and any miscellaneous profits, will be available for dividends, or for additional drawings.

RALPH P. HARDY, Actuary.

Messrs. WHINNEY, HURLBATT, and SMITH, Chartered Accountants, under date 11th August, report as follows;—

11th August, 1888.

In pursuance of the instructions contained in a minute passed at a meeting of the Board held on the 17th April, 1888, we have made an exhaustive examination of the accounts of the Association, and we are now in a position to report, as directed, upon the financial position of the Company, which is shown by the accompanying balance sheet of the 30th April, 1888.

We have had unrestricted access to all the Company's books and documents, and have received every possible assistance from the officials. We stipulated that we should have the assistance of an independent actuary to be appointed by ourselves, and we accordingly nominated Mr. Ralph Price Hardy, F.I.A. His report, dated the 8th instant, the result of which is embodied in the balance-sheet, is annexed.

The balance-sheet speaks for itself. It shows that—

After providing for all ascertained liabilities	£81,045 12 7
The capital remains intact.....	13,471 10 0
And there is a reserve of	5,989 7 10
Total assets.....	£100,506 10 5

WHINNEY, HURLBATT, and SMITH.

Full copy of Reports and Balance-sheet can be had on application at the Offices of the Association, 39, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

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MAIWA'S REVENGE;

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CAN be PREPARED at a MOMENT'S NOTICE with the ADDITION of WATER ONLY. HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS, STIMULATING, and a GOOD TONIC. *Served in cups at the ANGLO-DANISH, IRISH, and ITALIAN EXHIBITIONS, and at all Clubs, Hotel Bars, Confectioners', and Coffee Houses.* ICED or HOT. BOUILLON FLEET combines all the well-known stimulative qualities of Extract of Meat with the nutritious properties of the celebrated KEMMERICH'S PEPTONE of BEEF, now recommended by all the *highest Medical authorities.* GUARANTEED to be made from pure Beef only.

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In a few days Spots, Blemishes, Blotches, entirely fade away. Beautifully fragrant. Perfectly harmless. It renders the skin clear, smooth, supple, and healthy.

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DOVER and DEAL, by SEA, from LONDON BRIDGE WHARF DAILY at 11 A.M. (Sundays excepted), by the magnificent new Saloon Steamers *ORIOLE* or *MAVIS*. Fare, 7s.; children, 4s. DOVER.—Excursion there and back (to return by L. C. and D. R. or water), 12s. 6d.; children, 7s.—Apply to the G. S. N. Co., 55, Great Tower-street.

MARGATE and RAMSGATE, from LONDON BRIDGE WHARF, DAILY (Sundays excepted), at 11 A.M., calling at Blackwall Pier. Single fare. 5s. and 4s.; children under twelve, 2s. 6d. Sundays, Margate Excursion, at 9 A.M. Fare, 5s., children 2s. 6d. The new magnificent saloon steamers *ORIOLE* and *MAVIS* are now running on this station.

YARMOUTH.—TO-MORROW (Saturday), the usual Steamer will leave LONDON BRIDGE WHARF at 8.30 A.M. (unless previously full). Return fares, 12s. and 9s.; single fares, 8s. and 6s. The saloon steamer *HALCYON* will leave extra at 9 A.M. First-class passengers only. Reduced fare, 10s. 6d.

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And many others.

"PALL MALL GAZETTE" OFFICE, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, London, W.C.

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